



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Thursday
7 November 1991

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Cameroon

Tripartite Opposition, Government Meeting Continues

AB0611184391 Yaounde CRTV Radio Network
in French 0530 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Excerpt] The tripartite meeting continues at the Yaounde conference hall. The deliberations entered their active phase despite being suspended after the withdrawal of some opposition parties followed by some private media practitioners. The debate on the agenda went smoothly. The experts took the floor and then began working on the draft project on political parties' access to public audiovisual media. [passage omitted]

20 Parties Threaten 'Walk Out'

AB0711094591 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1230 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] The tripartite meeting with the prime minister continued this morning, but according to the latest reports received from our special correspondent, Raphael Badinga, 20 other parties that do not belong to the opposition Coordination have presented a number of conditions to the prime minister for their participation in further deliberations. Here the chairman of the Cameroon Liberal Alliance Party of Cameroon, Mr. Celestin Beziki, states his views:

[Begin recording] [Beziki] First, we asked the prime minister to make a formal pronouncement on the executive character of the resolutions to be adopted by the session. Second, we asked the prime minister to free all persons arrested and detained during the political demonstrations held since the start of the democratization process. Third, we asked the prime minister to formally declare his support for a fiscal moratorium to be granted to traders to enable them to pursue their activities normally. This is for the appeasement measures. Now, concerning the central issues, there is this problem of the constitution which we intend to raise again during the examination of the prime minister's third point.

[Badinga] You seem to be speaking the same language as the Coordination parties that have suspended their participation in the session.

[Beziki] Yes, we have always shared identical views but we often disagree on the method of approach. We blame our colleagues of the Coordination for providing the current regime with arguments by making absolutely premature decisions. We are convinced that if we had all remained in the meeting room and had put constant pressure on the government, it would have yielded to our demands.

A short while ago, I asked the prime minister to suspend the deliberations or else we would walk out, but he begged me to remain and to wait for the other people, notably, the notables and dignitaries to address the session before he would suspend the session. In any case, we made it clear to him that we expected an answer by 1500 today, and that if

we were not satisfied with the answer we would walk out of the deliberations. [end recording]

Central African Republic

Government Lifts Ban on Union Activities

AB0311101291 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 1 Nov 91

[Excerpts] The Central African Government has recently been making a series of moves for appeasement following its decision to hold a national conference in February, a date the opposition has rejected. The authorities have now announced the resumption of union activities.

From Bangui, Alain-George Ngatoua confirms this in this report.

[Begin recording] Prime Minister Edouard Franck has issued a decree ending the suspension of trade unions and authorizing the resumption of activities. To that effect, in October President Andre Kolingba asked the government to increase contacts with the active forces, particularly with unions. On that occasion, the head of state expressed the wish to see dialogue and consultation restored again in the interest of the country.

Even though the news is welcomed with some satisfaction, the unions have not stopped condemning the Franck government's measure on the administrative suspension of Gaston Mazette, the secretary general of the Teachers Trade Union Federation which they claimed was illegal. [passage omitted]

Mazette also welcomed the announcement of a national conference. The union previously had sent a memorandum to the head of state calling for a consultation with all the active forces to unfreeze the social climate in the country. [end recording].

It must be recalled that the activities of the six union federations of the public sector were banned in July by the Central African Government after several demonstrations at the Bangui Labor Exchange.

Opposition Rejects National Conference Date

AB0111172291 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1230 GMT 1 Nov 91

[Excerpt] The opposition in the Central African Republic has set its conditions. It demands the urgent convening of a national conference and rejects outright February of next year for the holding of said forum as fixed by the government. For the opposition, the social and political climate in the Central African Republic must be eased up as quickly as possible. I suggest you listen to Abel Goumba, chairman of the Standing Consultations Committee of the opposition parties:

[Begin recording] I must say that this date seems, in my view, to be too far away. It is too far away because of the serious problems that the country is currently passing

through. You know that public sector workers have not been paid for the past several months—about five or six—and that our students have already lost an academic year, which is now invalid. With poor health care, several dozens of people die each day. The Post and Telecommunications employees have been on strike for months and the country itself is cut off from the rest of the world. We are heading for a complete blockade of the political, economic, and social situation. The fixing of a date as far away as 19 February can only cause pointless suffering to the people. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Chad

President Deby Returns From Cairo Visit

AB0711091491 Ndjamenia RNT Radio in French
1900 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Excerpt] The head of state, Colonel Idriss Deby, returned to Ndjamenia early this afternoon at the end of a 48-hour working visit to Egypt. This visit enabled the two statesmen, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Idriss Deby, to strengthen the bonds of cooperation between Egypt and Chad. [passage omitted]

On the second issue, the holding of a national conference, the opposition wants it to be held this month, not in February as decided by President Kolingba.

Zaire

Premier Diaka Meets Foreign Ambassadors 5 Nov

EA0611123691 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French
0500 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Excerpt] Confusion has ended. The proceedings of the sovereign national conference will resume next week. This was announced yesterday evening to the press by the prime minister. The prime minister also had a busy diplomatic day yesterday as he held talks with the ambassadors of friendly countries—Italy, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Canada, and China—centering on the continuation of bilateral cooperation. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Meets Regional Governors, Others

LD0611184991 Kinshasa Zaire OZRT Television
Network in French 1900 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] There has been great activity at the Ministry of National Defense, Territorial Security, and War Veterans. The aim is to finish what remains to be done to quickly reinstate security of people and goods in our country. This morning, Minister N'gbanda Nzambo Ko Atumba received regional governors, the commissioners of the capital zones, the members of the managing committee of the National Association of Zairian Enterprises, and the foreign military attaches posted to Kinshasa.

To study the ways and means to guarantee total security is a priority for the new minister of national defense, territorial security, and war veterans. This morning in his office, Mr. N'gbanda Nzambo Ko Atumba spoke about this issue with the governors of the regions. Specific directives to ensure the security of the people were passed on to them in order to end the repeated instances of violence and destruction, which have become the common means of expression recently.

The decision was made with the commissioners of the capital zones, led by Governor (Fundu Nkoto), to set up in the very near future a broad campaign against violence. This campaign, which is to be organized in each zone by the grassroots authorities, will be conducted throughout the city with the help of social and cultural organizations. In this way, the governor believes there will be a successful operation, and each citizen of Kinshasa will be able to see the negative role of violence for both people and the environment.

In the afternoon, Mr. N'gbanda Nzambo Ko Atumba received a delegation from the National Association of Zairian Enterprises. The members of the delegation told him that the condition necessary for all activity resuming in the country is a speedy return to security.

As for the military attaches posted in Kinshasa, Minister N'gbanda outlined to them the political situation existing in our country. The French and Belgian attaches assured in an interview with (Kabanga Kasongu) that not one of the troops from their respective countries is still on Zairian soil.

Sacred Union Said To Attend National Conference

AB0711090091 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 6 Nov 91

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The opposition Sacred Union Alliance in Zaire has been meeting today to consider the latest moves to break the political stalemate in the country. President Mobutu's prime minister, Mungul Diaka, has been offering the opposition the opportunity to get together again in a national conference. The last attempt got nowhere, with the opposition complaining that it was packed with Mobutu supporters. On the line to Kinshasa, Robin White asked our correspondent, Colin Blane, what decision the opposition had come up with:

[Begin recording] [Blane] The Sacred Union has decided that they will, in fact, attend the national conference which the prime minister, Mungul Diaka, announced he wanted to hold next week. I do not know if the Sacred Union would attend it that fast. They say they want a preparatory commission to be set up to discuss the agenda and they want a neutral chairman to head that commission. But it does look as if they are willing to go along and to resume the whole process of having a national conference which is something that their

leader—the leader of the opposition, Etienne Tshisekedi—had said that they did not want to do.

[White] A bit of a surprise decision.

[Blane] Well, I was surprised, certainly, although there had been voices within the Sacred Union on previous days saying that they ought to talk. The reason for me being a little bit taken aback was that Mr. Tshisekedi had said that he wanted nothing to do with a national conference and now, the coalition, which he heads, has gone the other way, though admittedly with set conditions. But it looks as if he is going to be taken to the conference by his coalition.

[White] Will this help calm things down in Kinshasa?

[Blane] Well, in fact, things have been rather calm for the last few days in Kinshasa, anyway. But you cannot see anything in this decision which is likely to inflame passions because it does draw the sides together. They may find other things to fall right over, but it does look as if they are going to a meeting to talk and this is something that ambassadors have been pressing for. I know the U.S. ambassador mentioned this just a couple of days ago that she wanted and other governments wanted to see the national conference resume.

[White] I gather you had a bit of a surprise visit from the Nigerian foreign minister. Now, what is he doing there?

[Blane] Indeed, the Nigerian foreign minister has been in the country. I understand that he has been meeting President Mobutu and one can only imagine that this has got something to do with bringing outside opinions to Zaire. The Nigerians have made it very clear that they are going to maintain their diplomatic presence in the country and we are going to find out later exactly what

was going on, but looks as if the Nigerians have been making some kind of diplomatic initiative.

[White] And what do you think they might be telling President Mobutu?

[Blane] It really hard to tell. Other sources suggest that there is not going to be any intervention from outside, despite some of the wilder stories that were appearing in the papers earlier this week about the Belgians and French coming back. I think that it may well be that for the time being, Zaire is going to be left to sort out its own problems and this is something that the opposition is anxious about. Many, many opposition people are saying: Why will George Bush not help? Why will the Americans not come in and help us? But I do not detect any suggestion that anyone is willing to send troops here, anyway. [end recording]

Railway Traffic With Zambia Resumes

EA0611184091 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French
0500 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Excerpt] We have learned that railway traffic between Zaire's Shaba Region and Zambia's Copperbelt Province, which was interrupted recently after an incident provoked by two [Zairian] civil guard elements on the border between the two countries, has just resumed. This resulted from a joint Zaire-Zambia meeting held recently in Ndola, Copperbelt Province.

According to Mr. Mwema Wabando, Upper Shabasub-regional commissioner, who led the Zairian delegation, the meeting centered on normal resumption of traffic between Shaba and Copperbelt Provinces in order to strengthen the friendly and brotherly ties between Zaire and Zambia. The Zairian delegation, Mr. Mwema Wabando said, assured the Zambian delegation that Zairian authorities will deploy all means necessary to maintain an atmosphere of security on the common border. [passage omitted]

Djibouti

Zanzibar's Amour Stops Over, Meets With Barkat

EA0411160091 Djibouti Radio Djibouti in Somali
1700 GMT 3 Nov

[Text] Dr. Salmin Amour, the president of Zanzibar, who is also the vice president of Tanzania, today stopped briefly at Djibouti airport, where he was met by Mr Barkat Gourad Hamadou, the prime minister of the Republic of Djibouti. Dr. Salmin Amour and the prime minister held a brief meeting at the airport VIP lounge, where they held talks on relations between Djibouti and Tanzania.

Dr. Salmin Amour, who is leading a 10-man delegation, four of whom are ministers, flew off to Oman for an official visit.

Ethiopia

Delegation Returns From African Tour

EA0211085291 Addis Ababa ENA in English
1417 GMT 1 Nov 91

[Text] Addis Ababa, 1 Nov (ENA)—The governments of four Western and Southern African nations have expressed readiness to stand alongside the Transitional Government in all its endeavours to introduce democratic changes into the country.

Dr. Negasso Gidada, minister of labour and social affairs, said on return here this morning after leading the delegation on a working tour of the two sub-regions that the governments of Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, and Namibia all noted with admiration the efforts under way to lead Ethiopia on the path of peace and democracy.

The delegation delivered President Meles Zenawi's messages to the leaders of the four countries.

The minister pointed out that the delegation members held important discussions with senior officials of the countries visited on ways of strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation. Particular stress was made on the direction of Ethiopia's new foreign policy.

Dr. Negasso stated that the delegation also briefed local Ethiopian communities on the objective situation in Ethiopia at the present time and the government's future policy stance and other topical issues. Members of these communities were reported to have expressed their firm support for the peaceful and democratic changes taking place here.

It is to be recalled that the delegation, composed of two members of the Council of Representatives, had earlier been on a similar mission to Tanzania and three neighbouring countries.

Egyptian 'Friendship' Delegation Arrives in Eritrea

EA0611182591 Asmera Voice of the Broad Masses
of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] An Egyptian delegation led by al-Sayyid Muhammad 'Ali, political adviser in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, arrived at Asmera International Airport the morning of 5 November. Mr. Hamed Hamed, head of the Arab desk in the Office of Foreign Affairs, welcomed the delegation.

Al-Sayyid Muhammad 'Ali, in a statement to the Voice of the Broad Masses on the objectives of his visit, said his delegation was one of friendship. He said it had come to extend its congratulations, solidarity, and support to the Eritrean people and government following the victory attained after 30 years of struggle and to provide assurances concerning the Egyptian Government's readiness to contribute every type of assistance the Eritreans require. He also noted that the Egyptian Government wishes to strengthen the relationship between Eritrea and Egypt.

Joint Communique Issued, Djibouti Leader Departs

EA0611201091 Addis Ababa ENA in English
1532 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] Addis Ababa, 6th November (ENA)—Ethiopia and Djibouti have called for the immediate convening of an international conference that will address itself to ways of raising humanitarian aid that will enable countries exposed to grave economic ills [to] rehabilitate people affected by war and drought and overcome the burden of the problem of refugees.

This was disclosed in a joint communique issued simultaneously in Addis Ababa and Djibouti today following the conclusion of the official visit of President Hassan Gouled Aptidon to Ethiopia.

The communique stressed that the plight of persons affected by recurrent wars and drought in the region is a matter of serious concern. It said that the problem of war and drought had displaced many people who were relegated to the status of refugees. The communique pointed out that the two neighbouring countries had agreed to work closely with other states in the region to solve the problem. The communique further pointed out that the two heads of state had discussed the activities of the inter-governmental authority on drought and development (IGADD) and had proposed that the organisation should be given full support so that it could be greatly strengthened and fulfil its obligations effectively.

In addition, the communique noted that the talks held between the two leaders and the understanding reached would contribute immensely to further strengthening the friendly ties between the two countries and to promote peace and security in the region.

The talks between the two leaders, said the communique, focused on bilateral relations, the situation in the Horn of Africa and matters on common interest. The fact that the talks were conducted in a spirit of brotherhood and complete understanding reflects the long-standing relations between the two countries, the communique said.

An agreement has also been reached to reactivate joint committees and to ensure the administrative autonomy of the Ethio-Djibouti railway, the communique said.

[Addis Ababa ENA in English at 1539 GMT on 6 November also reports in an Addis Ababa-dated item: President Hassan Gouled Aptidon of Djibouti has said that Djiboutians could draw an example from the current developments taking place in Ethiopia. The Djiboutian president made the statement during his address here today at the Council of Representatives in the presence of President Meles Zenawi.

["President Hassan Gouled Aptidon pointed out that Ethiopia's new avenue towards peace and development would be collectively expedient to the peoples of neighbouring countries. He said that his country would resume providing Ethiopia with all the necessary support towards its endeavour to undertake significant development activities.

["He elaborated that the peoples of Ethiopia and Djibouti, who are not confined to their limited borders and are challenged by similar problems, should exert ceaseless effort towards the prevalence of peace and stability in the Horn of Africa.

["President Hassan Gouled Aptidon thanked for the hospitality he was accorded by the transitional government and people of Ethiopia during his three-day visit here. The Council of Representatives later presented a souvenir to President Aptidon in his honour as well as the people of Djibouti."]

[Djibouti Radio Djibouti in Somali at 1700 GMT on 6 November reports that President al-Haji Hassan Gouled Aptidon returned home after a three-day official visit to Ethiopia.]

Finance Ministry Cited on 'Contraband Trade'

EA0611125591 Addis Ababa ENA in English
1428 GMT 5 Nov

[Text] Addis Ababa, 5 Nov (ENA)—The Ministry of Finance issued here today a statement on the contraband trade presently expanding at appalling proportions in areas bordering Ethiopia with certain neighbouring countries. The statement noted that the disruption of peace and stability in Ethiopia and neighbouring countries led to the dislocation of peoples which had resulted in the expansion of illicit trade in border areas more than ever before. The statement further said that at present the contraband trade has reached a stage to threaten the national economy of the country.

Referring to the magnitude of the problem, the statement said that in addition to common commodities, contrabandists are currently engaged in smuggling vehicles. The smuggling of vehicles, in addition to posing as a threat to the country's economy, may damage friendly relations that happily exist between Ethiopia and neighbouring countries in contradiction to Ethiopia's foreign policy of good neighbourliness. The statement further pointed out that the smuggling of vehicles is carried out in violation of bank regulations and takes the revenue of the government obtained from the sale of vehicles and other consumer goods. In this connection the ministry called on border administrators to tighten control on illicit trade and warned that anyone or any organisation attempting to smuggle vehicles would be confiscated without any condition whatsoever. [sentence as received]

Kenya

More on Land Dispute; Bank Strike Continues

EA0611202591 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting
Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] The government has assured all Kenyans that adequate security measures have been taken in order to maintain peace and tranquility along the borders of Nandi, Kericho, and Kisumu Districts.

In a ministerial statement to Parliament, the minister of state in the office of the president, Mr. Joseph Ngutu, said that the government was fully aware of the cause of the disturbances which are solely based on land dispute. He regretted that the dispute had so far caused the death of three people and loss of property belonging to innocent residents. Mr. Ngutu said it was unfortunate for a few people to take the law into their hands instead of using the established government machinery to resolve such issues. The minister advised the disputing parties to follow the existing machinery of solving such disputes without resorting to violence and harassment of innocent wazwanchi [citizens]. He assured the people living in the affected areas that the government will ensure that life and property will be protected at all costs. Mr. Ngutu dismissed most press reports emanating from the area as exaggerated and aimed at inciting the public. The statement follows reports of disturbances in the area for the last few days.

[Nairobi KTN Television in English at 1600 GMT on 6 November also reports: "A nationwide bank strike called by the Kenya food, commercial and allied workers union continues tomorrow after union officials and the bank management could not come to a compromise. The bank strike paralyzed banking operations today where banks remained closed with no banking operations. Negotiations between the bank, management and union officials failed to materialize yesterday, which resulted in today's strike. The matter could now be referred to the industrial court. Union officials and bank shop stewards met today

at the solidarity building and vowed to continue with the strike until their demands are met."]

Papers Report Troops Deployed

EA0711111991 Nairobi KTN Television in English
0500 GMT 7 Nov 91

[From the press review]

[Text] The ongoing violent clashes in Nandi and Kisumu [western Kenya] districts is covered prominently in all three dailies. The [DAILY] NATION reports that parliament went into a stormy session yesterday following the withdrawal of a motion allowing legislators to debate over the weeklong violent fighting in Kisumu and Kericho and Nandi Districts. Kennedy Kiliku was sent out of the house over the matter.

The [KENYA] TIMES reports that combined forces of the GSU [General Service Unit Paramilitary Force] and administration police have been deployed to [the] troubled area under the instruction that they use all necessary power at their disposal to restore peace in the area. THE STANDARD reports that the peace team has been deployed in the area.

Uganda

Journalists Oppose 'Obnoxious' Media Bill

AB0611221591 Dakar PANA in English 1025 GMT
6 Nov 91

[Text] Kampala, 6 Nov. (UNA/PANA)—Journalists in Uganda have urged the government of President Yoweri Museveni, which prides itself for championing human rights, not to think of implementing the "Bill for the Uganda Media, Press and Publications Statute 1991."

The president of the Uganda Journalists Association (UJA), James Namakajo, at a two-day seminar for media practitioners in Kampala termed the document obnoxious.

He said the provisions in the documents restricted the freedom of expression that should be enjoyed by journalists.

Opening the seminar Tuesday, [5 November] the Ugandan Minister of Information, Paul Etiang, told journalists that the document should be used for discussion and not be viewed as a proposed bill that will be tabled before the National Resistance Council (NRC) Parliament. Etiang said the document had not been considered by Cabinet and was in no way near being tabled before the NRC. He said the objective of the seminar was to help change the unwanted parts of the document.

Etiang said other provisions concerning the importation and distribution of publications and control of cinematographic materials were designed to prevent the erosion [of] Ugandan culture.

Czechoslovakia's Dienstbier Ends Visit 1 Nov

MB0111112291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1044 GMT 1 Nov 91

[Text]? Cape Town Nov 1 SAPA—The Czechoslovakian minister of foreign affairs and vice-president, Mr Jiri Dienstbier, paid a courtesy visit to South Africa's Parliament on Friday morning.

He was due to return to his home country on Friday afternoon after meeting, among others, the state president, F W de Klerk, in Pretoria.

Among those who met Mr Dienstbier on the steps of Parliament were the chief whip of Parliament, Mr Alex van Breda, and the secretary to parliament, Mr Gert de Kock.

After a tour of the complex, he was entertained to tea.

Mr Dienstbier told SAPA this was his last official assignment in a week-long visit to South Africa.

Pik Botha Offers Lithuania Economic Assistance

MB0611084491 Johannesburg South African
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
0500 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, says South Africa is prepared to help Lithuania economically.

Mr. Botha told a news conference in Vilnius, after meeting President Vitautas Landsbergis, that the situation in Lithuania was not what he had expected it to be. He said the euphoria of independence seemed to have given way to the reality of economic hardship and the need for reform. He said South Africa and Lithuania had much in common as both countries had to adjust to the new political situation in their respective regions. Mr. Botha, who has visited the two other Baltic States, Latvia and Estonia, leaves for Moscow today to visit the Soviet Union.

It will be a private visit as South Africa and the Soviet Union do not yet have diplomatic ties.

Justice Minister Criticizes ANC, CP Policies

MB2910194891 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in English 1800 GMT 29 Oct 91

[Text] Justice Minister and leader of the [Orange] Free State National Party [NP], Kobie Coetsee, says both the ANC [African National Congress], and CP [Conservative Party] policies will lead to domination.

Addressing a special NP congress in Bloemfontein, Mr. Coetsee, said both parties had agendas that ended domination by the centralization of power. Erna van Wyk reports:

[Begin recording] [Van Wyk] Mr. Coetsee said both the ANC with its war talk, and the Conservative Party with its policy of secession, had an agenda with steps to ensure domination.

[Coetsee, in Afrikaans] We are not going to have a better South Africa if we change domination—as we know it—if we change that domination of the past for another.

[Van Wyk] Mr. Coetsee said that by centralizing power there was an error in the line of thinking of both the CP and the ANC, because the reason for the uprisings against regimes in Eastern Europe was against central communist control by one authority.

At the congress the minister of constitutional development, Dr. Viljoen, rejected the allegation that the NP was in a process of capitulation, and said the party had opened up its membership in order to ensure that it formed part of the majority in a future dispensation.

The Free State Congress unanimously accepted the NP's constitutional proposals. [end recording]

ANC Claims Intelligence Service Plans Ciskei Coup

MB0511082591 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2142 GMT 4 Nov 91

[Text] East London Nov 4 SAPA—The African National Congress [ANC] claimed on Monday that a coup to overthrow the Ciskei military administration of Brigadier Oupa Gqozo in the next few days was being planned by South Africa's National Intelligence Services.

The alleged plan was intended to pre-empt attempts by the Border Peace Committee to persuade Pretoria to appoint an interim administrator in Brig Gqozo's position, the publicity secretary of the Border ANC, Miss Marion Sparg, claimed.

"If such an administrator were appointed, it would effectively mean that the National Party government would be admitting that Ciskei had no 'independent' status."

Instead the coup would result in the installation as head of state of Ciskei's minister of manpower, Chief Lent Maqoma, according to information in the ANC's possession, she said.

A liaison officer for the Department of Foreign Affairs said on Monday night he had no knowledge of the rumoured plans for a coup.

South Africa's ambassador to Ciskei, Mr Pieter Goosen, could not be contacted for comment.

Chief Maqoma said he knew nothing about any plan to place him in power.

"I have not been approached by anyone. We've got a head of state here. I don't know anything about this."

Chief Maqoma declined to answer further questions.

Miss Sparg said those involved in the alleged coup plot should note that they would be "acting directly against the wishes of the people in this region."

"There must be proper consultation with all the parties in the region before any new appointments are made to head the Ciskei government."

"The proper and democratic way to resolve the impasse in this region is for the De Klerk government to sit down with the Border Peace Committee and work out a plan for a suitable interim administration in Ciskei until national constitutional negotiations decide the fate of the region," she said.

Chief Maqoma, 62, is a former cabinet minister under the ousted Ciskei president, Mr Lennox Sebe, and founder of a group opposed to Mr Sebe, the Ciskei People's Rights Protection Party.

After four years in exile, he returned to Ciskei after Brig Gqozo seized power in March 1990, only to be arrested and deported.

He later returned, regained favour and was ultimately appointed as minister of manpower.

Ciskei Minister Rejects Coup Claim

MB0611073391 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] Ciskei's Manpower minister has rejected ANC [African National Congress] claims that there is a plan to overthrow the homeland's government and that he would be installed as head of state.

The minister Lent Maqoma has denied the existence of any coup plans, saying the allegations are an attempt by the ANC to destabilize Ciskei's military government, which he says is trying to create an air of calm and peace in the region. On Monday [4 November] the ANC claimed a coup plan was being hatched to preempt regional attempts to persuade the South African Government to appoint an interim administrator in Ciskei.

The ANC said the coup plot has had the backing of South Africa's National Intelligence Service.

Press Reviews on Current Events, Issues

1 Nov Press Review

MB0111132091

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

ANC Uses Sport as Political Weapon—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 29 October in its page 6 editorial points out "there is a price to pay for the return of individual sports to international competition. For

one thing, the sports administrators have virtually surrendered their autonomy to the ANC [African National Congress] and its affiliates. If they want to play international sport, they have to get their approval and they have to meet the conditions they have set." Instead of letting our sportsmen back into international sport without pre-conditions, the ANC is using sport as a political weapon."

THE STAR

'Misjudgement' To Oppose Tax Stayaway Totally—Referring to the planned stayaway protesting value-added tax, VAT, Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 1 November in a page 12 editorial says: "Indeed, the argument against a stayaway is so cogent, so potent, so apparently unassailable that the superficial observer may be inclined to think that COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] and its allies are out of their minds even to contemplate such action. That would be a misjudgement. Things are not as simple as that. While the prospects of achieving democracy are there, the reality at present is that black political organisations have very little leverage in day-to-day developments, and the Government appears to be exploiting that. All too often it invites comment on a predetermined action—and calls it consultation or negotiation." "Changing to VAT amounts, as COSATU points out, to a restructuring of the economy and, combined with privatisation and other Government moves, it fundamentally affects the national structure. Sensible or not, such actions rankle with people who believe they may be running the country tomorrow and are entitled to a proper say today in their inheritance."

BUSINESS DAY

'Serious Responsibilities' Imposed on Tax Protesters—Noting COSATU's two-day stay away to protest VAT, Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 1 November in a page 12 editorial says "cynics will note that, with the exception of 1990, the union federation has found a pretext for a show of force every year since 1984." "As this process moves forward, COSATU will doubtless point to the stay away as a tactic which helped it along. Let no one be fooled. As COSATU knows from its own participation in informal talks, things are moving. At most, stay away organisers will get the satisfaction of embarrassing Finance Minister Barend du Plessis, whose handling of VAT's introduction was inept. The stay away will bring them no important gains. But it does impose on them serious responsibilities. The authorities have the duty to ensure the freedom to protest by voluntary participants. The organisers, who have made the right noises against intimidation, have the duty to ensure these are translated into reality."

CAPE TIMES

Country To Help Neighbors After Own Economy Repaired—"The forward-looking address by Dr Jonas Savimbi at a Natal Chamber of Industries banquet last week was a reminder that the people of Angola and

Mozambique are moving, however unsteadily, towards multi-party democracy and economic recovery. Dr Savimbi sees a partnership between oil-rich Angola and South Africa as the driving force for regeneration of the region," says a page 6 editorial in Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 28 October. "South Africa certainly owes it to the ordinary people of these countries to help repair the damage. But this country will be in no shape to help itself, never mind its neighbours, until it has restored and extended its own trade with the bigger and wealthier markets in the northern hemisphere."

NEW NATION

Transfer of Power Unlikely Soon—"Many in our country behave as if democracy has already been won, that the transfer of power to the people now remains a mere formality," declares the page 6 editorial in Johannesburg NEW NATION for 1-7 November in English. "Nothing could be further from the truth. It is a source of great concern that there is a feeling of smugness about the prospects for democracy in our country and this stems from what many perceive as an inexorable realignment of democratic movements throughout the world." However, the "callousness and the ruthless efficiency with which the agenda of violence against our people has been conducted must tell us that those in power have every intention of staying. Having thus far secured this unity, we believe that the time may be ripe for the [Patriotic] Front to move towards involving international organisations of repute in the monitoring of the process of negotiations."

THE WEEKLY MAIL

Praise for PAC's 'Spirit of Compromise' at Patriotic Front—Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English for 1-7 November in a page 24 editorial says that "whatever differences of interpretation lie between the African National Congress and the Pan-Africanist Congress over the exact nature of the Patriotic Front alliance, the PAC's presence at the negotiating table can only add some necessary weight to the table's left side." The PAC's "constructive attitude to the Patriotic Front reflects a welcome spirit of compromise. Signals from the government that it is prepared to amend the constitution to take on board transitional arrangements means we might be headed for an historic settlement on an interim government. That would boost the prospects for a solution."

THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER

'Exaggerated Opulence' of Namibian Head of State—Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English on 26 October in a page 10 editorial says the "travelling habits of our Head of State are not only unduly expensive; they border on conditions of exaggerated opulence. It is today common knowledge that the country pays a heavy bill in respect of State House and the presidential retinue, the guards of honour and above

all, the corporate jets. One wonders what the sum of money amounts to that has been expended in the past eighteen months."

BEELD

ANC-PAC Shift Emphasis at Patriotic Front Conference—"If one ignores the rhetoric in statements made at the weekend's Patriotic Front conference, then it is clear that there is a definite shift in emphasis which will make it possible for the government to continue with its constitutional reform program," declares a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 28 October. "Especially noteworthy is the PAC's [Pan-Africanist Congress] willingness to participate in a multiparty conference before the formation of a constituent assembly. It also seems likely that the PAC will negotiate with the government on interim measures during the transitional period." "The PAC's new approach makes it easier for the ANC [African National Congress] to move forward, as the ANC is scared to lose black support, especially if it is seen to be collaborating with the government." "However, these parties still find it necessary to resort to the use of rhetoric, which contravenes the terms of the peace accord signed on the 14 September. Hopefully, these parties will come to their senses and will stop blaming the government for the violence in the country."

Editorial Views Alliances Formation Before All-Party Talks—"The Establishment of a Patriotic Front confirms that the parties to the left of the government will work as a united front until a new constitution is devised," notes a page 18 editorial in Afrikaans in Johannesburg BEELD on 29 October. "One should remember that alliances are also being formed with the National Party, as part of this restructuring. Eventually, there should also be some measure of cooperation from right-wing groups once negotiations get underway. The formation of alliances forms part of the democratic process and is definitely preferable to the arms struggle." "The parties or organizations hesitating to form alliances will find themselves weakened at a multiparty conference." "With strategies, proposals, and the formation of alliances at an advanced stage, the only remaining issue concerns serious discussions on the country's future."

4 Nov Press Review

MB041113491

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Doctors' Antitax Strike 'Shameful'—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 31 October in its page 6 editorial refers to the anti-value added tax (VAT) strike by 3,000 doctors, questioning their "obligation to look after people who are sick and require their services. In this regard, the doctors have failed miserably. We never thought we would see the day when doctors would take to the streets in a political demonstration. That they did

is shameful. That they were mainly Black and Indian doctors is even more shameful."

THE STAR

Law Commission's Proposed Bill of Rights Welcome—A page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 4 November notes that the Law Commission has produced two reports "of direct relevance to the 'New South Africa'." The first, a "working paper," "moots the idea of a bill of rights to guard individual liberties in the future. The second, released at the weekend, proposes the creation of a special constitutional court to test laws and executive actions against the bill of rights and to reject them if they contravene it." "Of particular relevance is the commission's proposal that the leaders of the main political forces should attempt to reach consensus of an interim bill of rights to help guide South Africa through the difficult transition from the old to a new order. The envisaged bill of rights can serve as a confidence-building bridge between the parties in the interregnum."

Kaunda's Defeat 'Not a Day Too Soon'—A second editorial on the same page declares that "after 27 years of misrule, the defeat of Zambia's Kenneth Kaunda came not a day too soon. His overthrow by trade union leader Frederick Chiluba in what appears to have been a well-run and fair general election had been predicted, for not even the massive pre-election propaganda campaign waged by the ruling UNIP [United National Independence Party] party could hide the fact that the country was in a sorry state."

BUSINESS DAY

Electricity Commission Sets 'Public-Spirited' Example—The Electricity Supply Commission, Eskom, decision to hold its annual price rise below inflation over the next five years "is to be commended," notes Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 4 November in a page 8 editorial. "Eskom believes its five-year plan will not have adverse financial effects. Instead, savings will be possible from increased efficiency at new generation power stations, the mothballing of old stations and an overall drive to increase productivity. Private sector economists have contributed to the plan and agree the spinoffs of curtailed electricity prices will be far-reaching. We hope others will follow Eskom's public-spirited example."

5 Nov Press Review

MB0511120791

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Conservative Party Legitimizes State Spying—"President De Klerk admitted last week, in the face of NIS [National Intelligence Service] denials, that the agency had indeed kept an eye on CP [Conservative Party] people," notes a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 5 November. "Is this

another case of Big Brother intrusion into the affairs of a legitimate organisation?" THE STAR "don't think so, much as we detest the paranoiac tendency of long-standing governments to equate self-interest with national interest. The CP has itself to blame if the Government is spying on it. Rightwingers generally are arming themselves and boasting of it. There is war talk in the land. Dr Treurnicht and his ilk have come dangerously close to espousing violence while warning of its imminence. If they are not planning something, they certainly suggest that they know something about the plans of others." "Among the lesser things Dr. Treurnicht will have to answer for is that he and his party, by their apparent condonation of violence and their knowing references to its possibility, have given a semblance of legitimacy to State spying."

BUSINESS DAY

Value of Stayaways Lower Each Time—The first day of the Congress of South African Trade Unions', COSATU, two day stayaway has come and gone and it "appears to have been effective although, initial reports and surveys suggest, less so than on some previous occasions," declares Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 5 November in a page 14 editorial. The stayaway "proves that COSATU and its allies have the ability to mobilise a fair number of workers in support of economic and political demands and to express grievances. But their ability to do so has not been seriously in doubt, provided the protest lasts for no more than a couple of days and is not called too frequently. Once every year or two is about the norm." "The stayaway is a political strategy which earns a lower marginal return each time it is used, and its costs are unpredictable. Some day, COSATU and its allies may learn that lesson."

6 Nov Press Review

MB0611122091

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Strikes Are ANC Takeover Attempt—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 5 November in its page 6 editorial believes the anti-value added tax, VAT, strike is a "form of coercion." "More measures are going to be taken like refusal to pay tax, civil disobedience, protests, rallies and who knows, even more stayaways. The object is to make the country ungovernable, to destabilise the townships, to disrupt the economy, to weaken the will of the businessmen to resist the radicals' demands, and to undermine the government's ability to rule." Therefore, if the government "values its own future and that of the country, it should not stand down but stand firm against an ANC [African National Congress] takeover attempt."

THE STAR

Union Must Weigh Further Strike Action—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 6 November says in a page 16 editorial the two-day anti-VAT strike "appears to have been effective in terms of mass response and relatively free of incident or overt intimidation." "At current levels of political tension (and the degree to which we have all become inured to violence) this outcome must be viewed with relief in a situation that was loaded with ugly potential." The strike, "which began as a protest against the Government. Despite Cosatu's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] talk of 'sustained mass action' to force an interim government on Pretoria, it will have to weigh further strike action very carefully indeed—in terms both of likely worker response and Government reaction." As to its original declared aims, "the strike seems to have made its point. The COSATU alliance has been invited to negotiate further on VAT. The Government is highly unlikely to introduce further radical changes in the economy without close consultation with the unfranchised."

Criticism of PAC's 'Armed Attacks'—A second editorial on the same page notes that the Pan-Africanist Congress's, PAC, Harare-based defense secretary, Victor Phama, "confirmed that an operative of the Azanian People's Liberation Army (APLA) shot constable Martin van Wyk in Soweto on Saturday [2 November]." The PAC attended the signing of the National Peace Accord as observers and is "expected to join in an open-ended multi-party conference before year-end. It has a rightful claim to participate in shaping a new constitution and negotiators from both ANC and Government have made it known they would like the PAC at the table. Surely, then, PAC leader Clarence Makwetu should immediately eschew further armed attacks."

BUSINESS DAY

Granting Bail To Train Killings Accused 'Questionable'—Albert Dlamini, "facing three charges of murder after his arrest by rail commuters he allegedly attacked on October 9," is entitled to bail, according to a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 6 November. "The police chose not to oppose the granting of bail. They and the court, obviously, believe Dlamini is neither dangerous nor likely to abscond. One hopes this is correct. It is unusual for a murder accused to be granted bail, let alone the low amount of R[and]2,000. Two alleged right-wing killers, former hunger strikers Adrian Maritz and Henry Martin, have recently absconded after being granted bail. Add to this the fact that the police have often been accused of conniving in violence—charges they have vigorously denied—and the special sensitivity about train killings, and the decision to grant bail to Dlamini seems questionable."

SOWETAN

Antitax Strike 'Political Coup' for Unions—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 6 November in a page 8 editorial says the two-day antitax strike "was an unqualified success for those who called it." "There is no doubt that COSATU,

Nactu [National Council of Trade Unions] and other organisations have scored a political coup in mounting this strike. The Government will be well-advised to heed the message from the black townships."

THE NAMIBIAN

Need for Constructive Parliamentary Debate—Editor Gwen Lister writes in her "Political Perspective" column on page 6 of Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English on 1 November: "One trusts that the R[and]7.5 million facelift for our seat of Government in the Tintenpalast will achieve at least two things: in the first place to lay to rest the paranoia of the official opposition that a one-party state is imminent in Namibia; and in the second place, to enhance the standard of debate in the Assembly, which has at times in the past, fallen far short of the high standards one expects of our legislators." "Let's have less adjournments, less mudslinging, and more constructive debate which will benefit Namibia as a whole."

THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER

Concern Over 'Absence of Leadership'—"The sickening social conditions of the Namibian people are growing, and these conditions are further compounded by the absence of leadership," declares a page 10 editorial in Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English on 2 November. "Destitution is growing, and with it more and more evils are triggered, and already we have reached the stage where we can talk of countless tens of thousands of people aimlessly drifting through vast regions of the country, squatting and denuding the country-side of game and bird life, while imposing on the few productive people an immense strain, for today the protection of property has invoked unbearable stress on both the individual who works, the producer of food, public instances such as municipalities, and yes—the government too! All of them are the targets of roving bands of criminals and vandals. But those supposed to have a firm control on the reins, sink back in their deep, upholstered chairs and there they fidget with the electronic recording and hearing devices."

RAPPORT

Editorial Criticizes ANC Mass Action Policy—"In the 80's the ANC tried to make the country ungovernable. During this time of kangaroo courts, necklace murders and arson, the ANC was still an underground organization," begins a page 22 editorial in the Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans on 3 November. "Now the methods are more sophisticated but the aim remains the same: To create so much social disorder that the government will be forced to hand over the country to the ANC

before a new constitution is negotiated. There is an influential group within the ANC that wants to obtain power at any cost." "The planned anti-VAT strikes planned by COSATU supposedly on behalf of the oppressed masses is just a smokescreen. For the past two years, COSATU has found other reasons to call for general strikes." "Who will benefit when the economy comes to a standstill? Do COSATU and the ANC really believe that the government will bow to their demands?"

BEELD

Editorial Views Kaunda's Fall From Power—"The manner in which President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia accepted the will of the majority of his people could be his biggest contribution toward Africa's welfare. If he had reacted in this manner before his departure, then Zambia would not be in the economic wilderness where it presently finds itself," declares a page 6 editorial in Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 4 November. "Years of mismanagement and economic experiments based on failed East European models brought about the fall of a country which thrived under colonial rule." "He pretended to be the statesman, moralist and humanist

when commenting on apartheid in South Africa, but he did not have the insight to realize that his own economic policy was an injustice to his people." "May President Frederick Chiluba's winds of change strengthen so that they may reach the whole of southern Africa."

Future Government To Face 'Culture of Lawlessness'—"The violent deaths of white, black and colored policemen have become a daily occurrence. All South Africans will eventually have to pay a very high price for this," notes a page 12 editorial in the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 5 November. "Politicians like Mr. Nelson Mandela do not need to continually criticize the police force, because channels have been created to investigate and expose any irregularities." "It is alleged that the PAC military wing has accepted responsibility for the deaths of policemen who were called out under false pretenses. More disturbing is the noncommittal reaction from PAC Vice-President Dikgang Moseneke who said that he did not know much about the organization's activities." "Any future government will have to face the culture of lawlessness being created by these organizations."

Angola

* Savimbi's True Ideology Remains Mystery

Lisbon *EXPRESSO* in Portuguese 4 Oct 91 p B5

[Article by correspondent Joaquim Vieira]

[Text] The greetings exchanged among the members of UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] are a ritual in two phases. During the first, hands are closed over one another, at shoulder height, with the forearms forming an inverted V. In the second, clenched fists are drawn, one against the other. The initial gesture can mean solidarity or unity; while the other is, rather, a sign of force or confrontation.

The message left by UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi during the tour last week that took him to several Angolan cities, preceding his grand entry into Luanda on Sunday, may be summarized in the salutations to the movement that the guerrilla chief gave thousands of times during those euphoric days. His speeches always fluctuated between, on the one hand, an appeal for the pooling of efforts by everyone to preserve peace and rebuild a country devastated by 16 years of civil war and by an incompetent, bureaucratic, centralized administration; and, on the other, a call for mobilization of the UNITA ranks. The latter appeal is aimed at keeping them stalwart in the battle against the government: in other words, reversing Clausewitz's aphorism about continuing the war by other means: through politics.

This was not Savimbi's only duality, conveyed by his gripping rhetoric. The chief of the resistance against the Luanda Marxist-Leninist regime has always cultivated two types of stances: toward the masses, a radical, populist, Jacobin position, based on immediate demands for prosperity and control of certain instruments of power; and, toward the elite, diplomats, and international agencies, a moderate position, totally respectful of the peace agreements signed four months ago in Lisbon with the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola].

The problem is that, after carefully listening to all his speeches, political statements, and press conferences, serious doubts remain as to the dominant personality in Savimbi: whether it is that of a wolf, or of a lamb. This is a basic question. Savimbi's circumnavigation has converted him into a credible candidate in the elections set for 11 months from now. The future of one of the potentially richest countries in Africa could depend on him, as it has up until now.

The questions are focused on these points in particular:

Nationalism: Savimbi's assertions concerning "Angolans first," repeated at each rally, despite their acclamation by delirious crowds, have created a shock wave in the European Community and in diplomatic circles. In essence, the UNITA leader never tired of promising to put an end to the "discrimination" that is causing

foreign technicians to earn more in Angola than local cadres with the same skills. He went so far as to criticize the cooperants, accusing them of only wanting to take money out of the country. He told *EXPRESSO* that, "The issue of cooperation should be studied differently, because it is doing harm to the national cadres." As for investments, he suggested that Angolan capital (the whereabouts of which no one knows) should be given priority over that of foreigners. In talks with reporters Savimbi claimed that the industrialized world has disdained Africa and had no confidence in its future development; viewing it only as a source of raw materials and fabulous profits. In Lobito, where he delivered his most radical speech, Savimbi hailed Nkrumah, his hero and one of the champions of pan-Africanism. (These are not new ideas of the UNITA president, but they had been relegated in recent years.) On the day after the Luanda rally a Western ambassador exclaimed: "Those are principles of the 1960's, of Mobutu, Nyerere, and others; and look at the state of those countries now!" A Portuguese diplomat gave assurance that, "This kind of talk is having the worst kind of effects in Lisbon." And a Portuguese manager in the hotel industry reached the point of despair: "Don't they realize that they won't get anywhere without us? And what cooperant would be willing to come here, far from his family and without facilities, to earn the same as the Angolan cadres?" Savimbi failed to reconcile his pledges of social justice with a viable outlook on development.

Security: After the peace accords and UNITA's entry into Luanda, the MPLA government, one of the most repressive in all of Africa, lost social authority. The idea, so popular in Portugal after 25 April, that there are no limits to permissiveness and tolerance, is spreading among the population. Strikes for better wages (if one can talk about strikes in a country where nearly all the factories are at a standstill and absenteeism is a universal habit) are exploding everywhere. Crime and banditry (often practiced by demobilized soldiers who keep their weapons) are putting Angola in a state of siege. The recent theft of a shipment of diamonds worth \$60 million, at Endiama [Angolan State Diamond Enterprise], could only have been committed with complicity on a high level. In the diamond mining zone, individual prospecting, prohibited by law, is now taking place on a large scale. In Benguela, the strikers at the hospital responded to the police with gunshots. There have been mysterious assassinations of prominent persons in the capital, causing alarm among its inhabitants. In short, the power is being exercised in the streets. Savimbi, who is counting on the government's disintegration, encouraged the strike movement, calling for a generalized revolt against those in charge of internal security. He accused the latter of continuing to instigate police persecution. And UNITA has been occupying houses which, it claims, belonged to it and were confiscated by the MPLA after the rival movement was driven out into the jungle.

Under these conditions, it is unlikely that the government will manage to survive until the elections. This may give rise to chaos, which would ultimately paralyze the democratic process.

Parties: Savimbi likes to emphasize his movement's legitimacy, and he has reasons for doing so. Without UNITA's battle against the Cuban and MPLA troops, backed by Soviet advisers, the present democratic openness would not be under way. But in Luanda the guerrilla movement leader demanded for his organization a special status in comparison with the parties that have meanwhile emerged: "The government cannot give UNITA the same treatment that it gives to those parties." The statement naturally evoked a reaction from those "offended," who gave a reminder that in a democracy there are no first- and second-class parties.

Tribalism: The war, by triggering widespread migratory movements, eliminated some of the tribal frontiers which, in the past, had been deciding factors in the opening of disputes in Angola. However, the ethnic sentiment did not disappear completely; and a rivalry between the tribes in the North and those in the Center and South was particularly notable. Savimbi may have a difficult task in eliminating the MPLA propaganda claiming that UNITA was a tribal organization based on the Central ethnic groups. In all his speeches the UNITA leader seemed sincere when appealing for the end of tribalism and proclaiming that his organization stands above those divisions. Nevertheless, in Luanda, when he made a few remarks in Quimundo (the dominant dialect around the capital), he was not met with the enthusiastic reception that he has with Umbundo (the dialect on the Central plateau) in Huambo or Lobito. He also resorted to an interpreter in Luanda, which he does not need in the other regions. Moreover, whites and half-breeds are absent from his rallies, although Savimbi has been guaranteeing UNITA's multiraciality (and apparently striving to make it a reality).

Despite all this, when Savimbi himself arrived last Tuesday for an audience with the CCPM (Joint Politico-Military Commission for the implementation of the peace accords), calling for an end to "hatred," and promising to issue orders to his clandestine radio network to give up aggressiveness toward the government and MPLA, or when he defended foreign cooperation and investment in the ambassadors' presence, the question has arisen: can this be the real Savimbi? It's possible. However, the population, already galvanized by an electoralist discourse, may think otherwise. It may all end up by changing its direction, against the will of the charismatic, natural leader, Jonas Savimbi, himself.

* Bank Official Discusses Financial Reforms

92AF0049B Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese
4 Oct 91 p 3

[Text] The reforms of the monetary and financial system are progressing rapidly, and the first private banks with foreign capital may appear as early as this year.

"The Central Bank is a part of the reform policy advocated by the Angolan Government's program for action, and has been assigned responsibility for undertaking a reform of the financial system. At present, we have a banking system on two levels: the Central Bank and the commercial banks. There are now three commercial banks operating in Angola." These were the first comments made to O JORNAL DA ECONOMIA by Generoso de Almeida, vice governor of the National Bank of Angola.

Generoso de Almeida came to Portugal as a guest of the Portuguese Bank of the Atlantic to speak on the occasion of the 21st International Seminar for Foreign Bankers. It was in this way that he began his account of the transformations currently taking place in the Angolan monetary and financial system, aimed at gearing it to the new social and political realities in Angola.

He explained: "By the end of this year we shall have published all the legislation that will demarcate the authority of the Central Bank and the commercial banks."

Foreign banks may be operating directly on the Angolan market as early as this year. According to Generoso de Almeida, "The legislation relating to the establishment and participation of foreign banks will also be published by December."

These are the two main decisions to be made by the National Bank of Angola during the final three months of 1991.

In these two areas, it should be noted, the laws have already been published. During this phase, all that is lacking are specific regulations "in the area of foreign investment and the financial market," as the vice governor explains. He claims that it is possible "that the opening of foreign bank branches and the creation of parabanking associations may occur by the year's end."

In this context, 1992 could be the year of the start of a monetary and financial system in Angola that is in complete harmony with the rules of a market economy, as the Angolan authorities intend.

Portuguese in the Front Line

In this respect, the Portuguese banks appear to have some lead over potential competitors. Hence, in addition to the Overseas Development Bank, the Portuguese Bank of the Atlantic and the Totta Acores Bank recently opened agency offices in Angola. This may be interpreted as a sign of an intention to proceed with opening branches as soon as that is permitted by the Angolan legislation.

This inference is drawn from Generoso de Almeida's comments, admitting that, "There are banks here in Portugal interested in becoming established in Angola."

The National Bank of Angola official explained that those regulations will define "the rules regarding mandatory reserves, interest rates, and exchange rates, for more openness in the purchase and sale of foreign currencies, etc."

This legislation is a part of the macroeconomic and financial reform plan being implemented by Angola. For the present, the three commercial banks existing in that African country have both public capital and capital from private Angolan companies.

The model adopted for the reforms being made in the Angolan monetary and financial system follows the Portuguese model very closely, with the proper adjustments to the individual features of the Angolan situation.

Generoso de Almeida explains: "We maintain close contacts with the Portuguese banking system. In this area we have several Portuguese advisers. We also receive backing from the International Monetary Fund [IMF], which is providing us with assistance in this reform process."

The fact that peace is not yet completely guaranteed is no obstacle to the progress of the reforms. The vice governor of the Angolan Central Bank indicates: "Although we don't yet have a very extensive program with the International Monetary Fund, there is cooperation between the two sides. We have worked with IMF teams; the Article 4 Commission (on the Fund's Statutes) has already visited Angola twice; and there are other IMF missions that have traveled to our country. In short, we have worked with this international economic organization, and our reforms have received the Fund's consensus. Hereafter, the government need only make some 'particular' extensive agreement with the IMF."

Nevertheless, this decision may be made only after the consolidation of the current peace process under way in the country.

Portuguese Cooperation

At present, the cooperation with Portugal in the monetary and financial realm is considered "good." Generoso de Almeida comments: "There are several accords and lines of credit between the Portuguese banks and the National Bank of Angola." In his view, "It is only natural that the cooperation will become closer on the investment level in Angola, with the improvement of our legislation on foreign investment."

Another area that could provide even greater rapprochement between the two countries is derived from the process of privatizing enterprises belonging to the Angolan state. This African country's present authorities expect more Portuguese businessmen to return to Angola through that expedient.

* New Economic Recovery Measures Announced

92AF0060A Lisbon *EXPRESSO* in Portuguese
12 Oct 91 p C14

[Article by Gustavo Costa]

[Text] Luanda—The demobilization of nearly 200,000 FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] and FALA [Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] troops, the constant budget deficit, and the additional expenses stemming from the creation of new ministries, as well as the operating costs for the Joint Politico-Military Commission (CCPM), will force the Angolan Government to undertake a thorough structural readjustment of its economy within the next few days. It will authorize an immediate 50 percent devaluation of the national currency: the kwanza.

Finance Minister Aguinaldo Jaime is currently in Thailand, carrying a letter of intent to negotiate with the IMF the new program calling for the Bank of Angola's introduction of a new rate system for interest receivable and payable, a Central Bank rediscount rate, and a mandatory reserves rate. The exchange policy will be subjected to a temporary exchange system, gradual devaluation, and convergence of the official exchange rate with the parallel market exchange.

According to an expert from the Finance Ministry, these measures are aimed at diverting the demand for foreign currency from the parallel to the official market. This is to be achieved by applying lower exchange rates and making a money supply available abroad for the implementation of exchange surcharges.

The break-off in food supplies and the marked budget deficit seem to have been the activators of this readjustment which, however, found the plan initially devised to obtain nearly \$2 billion for the population's logistical supplies aborted. According to an independent economist, the notion of this operation, "reflects the lack of realism and personal disagreements that have brought into confrontation the Ministries of Finance and Planning, on the one hand, and the Bank of Angola and the Council of Ministers Secretariat, on the other." A specialist from the Credit Bank notes that, under the current political conditions in Angola, "no entrepreneur would risk investing such large sums without the present income return guarantees."

Mismanagement in the Bank of Angola

The latest Council of Ministers session attacked the problem with some intensity and, furthermore, blamed the Bank of Angola for an allegedly flawed management of the differential of the foreign currency collected as a result of the Gulf crisis, which was allocated to honor certain debt service commitments.

Hence, the Finance Ministry has just admitted that the devaluation of the exchange rate a year ago, since it was not accompanied by restrictions in the budgetary policy, ended up exacerbating the OGE [General State Budget]

deficit. This was reflected in the financing of the internal debt with void currency issues, causing further excess liquidity, and leading the country into the devaluation-price increase-inflation-devaluation cycle. In some political circles it is feared that the adoption of drastic measures in the economic area may have negative electoral effects on the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]. Whereas, on the one hand, the latter cannot prolong the population's sacrifices, on the other, it must revise the structure of its economy to win its creditors' confidence.

Based on this readjustment, a package of measures will be implemented to establish the new parity with the dollar (US\$) at 90 new kwanzas (Nkz). Nevertheless, certain financial circles in the Angolan capital are questioning the imposition of two surcharges, which could amount to exchange rates of 459 Nkz-US\$ and 550 Nkz-US\$, respectively. Five basic market basket foodstuffs (rice, edible oil, sugar, soap, and infant's milk) as well as certain fuels will be affected by the official rate. On the other hand, raw materials for the national industry and other foodstuffs included in the basic market basket will be imported with a 459 Nkz-US\$ surcharge.

Imports of household electrical appliances, vehicles, and other products will be authorized with a surcharge of 550 Nkz-US\$, without any quantitative restrictions. The brutal return to a competitive existence will penalize a class that has always lived beyond its means. Whereas, in the past, it was possible to purchase a new vehicle worth \$12,000 for only \$2,000, at an exchange of 1,500 kwanzas on the parallel market, the future scenario indicates a drastic rise to 10 million kwanzas.

Setting the Minimum Wage

The package also calls for the free purchase and sale of foreign currencies to private entities with a surcharge of 550 Nkz-US\$. According to a study to which EXPRESSO has had access, a ceiling of \$3,000/year could be established for Angolan tourists, and one of \$5,000/year for entrepreneurs.

Soon to be announced is the wage remonetarization in enterprises, with the minimum wage set at 12,000 Nkz, and possibly reaching a maximum sum of 400,000 Nkz. This measure is aimed at compensating for the special cards and self-consumption. Stores using foreign currencies would be abolished, and given a three-month period for their reconversion. Temporarily excepted from this regulation will be Catermar (a Portuguese "catering" firm) and the stations of the ELF [Gasoline and Lubricants Company of France] and Fina oil companies. Nevertheless, they will be required to limit sales of beverages and other goods that could be monetarized.

According to an expert from the Bank of Angola—which is due to be converted into a public enterprise—without the influence conferred on it by its seat in the Council of Ministers, the second devaluation, estimated at 45 percent, could occur a month after the first. The official parity would be set at 131 Nkz-US\$, in an operation that

will simultaneously authorize the new pay schedule for public employees and the national minimum wages for the productive sector. The third phase of this process will set the national currency with a parity of 184 Nkz-US\$, and the definitive adjustment is not due to occur until the middle of next year.

* Portuguese Delegation Meets New Entrepreneurs

92AF0060C Lisbon PUBLICO in Portuguese
14 Oct 91 p 27

[Text] During the visit paid to Luanda by the mission from the Portuguese Industrial Association, the young entrepreneurial class emerging in Angola revealed that it still fears making decisions without the authorities' knowledge. Or at least it fears the authorities giving a negative interpretation to its contacts and activities.

On the second day of the visit, after an explanatory session on the Angolan economy held in the Interior Ministry's auditorium, the entrepreneurs from both countries, like students starting the year at school, rising when called upon by the teacher and giving their names, were introduced to one another. First, the Angolans identified themselves, one by one, giving the names of their enterprises and the respective industries; and, finally, they identified the persons with whom they wished to make contacts. Next, it was the turn of the Portuguese to do the same.

During the coffee break following the introductions, each person hurried to the location of his potential contact. The traditional handshakes were given, the names were repeated again, and the first contacts began.

Attending in the Portuguese delegation was the director of BCS-Portugal Agricultural Machines, Jose Federico Abecassis Dotti. One of his surnames, Abecassis, immediately startled the Angolan entrepreneur who had wanted to contact him. "Do you have any connection with a Portuguese politician named Abecassis?" he asked promptly. And, without giving the BCS director time to respond, he added: "If so, I don't want anything to do with you. I don't want to become involved in politics, much less with political parties."

Jose Dotti explained to the Angolan (that he was not a relative of Nono Abecassis, ex-president of the Lisbon Municipal Chamber), and then the talks began. Jose Dotti later confided to PUBLICO: "Nevertheless, my contact still avoided me." It was not until the second day of the contacts that the Angolan entrepreneur became a little more open, and explained why he was frightened by the surname.

But Jose Dotti's greatest astonishment was still to come. "Just imagine, he's a member of the Angolan Democratic Renewal Party, and in that party's leadership to boot!" he exclaimed, perplexed. "He's an opposition party member, known as such, and he's afraid." PUBLICO later learned that the aforementioned Angolan entrepreneur had previously been a high-ranking State official.

*** New Entrepreneur Describes Fishing Company**

92AF0060B Lisbon PUBLICO in Portuguese
14 Oct 91 pp 26-27

[Text] His loud voice and physical appearance remind one more of a military or security serviceman than a young entrepreneur in a country heading toward a market economy. The very clothing that he wears is reminiscent of a young student or worker.

After 12 years of military service in the Angolan Navy, in which he became a frigate lieutenant, Humberto Abano do Amaral, aged 30, joined the reserves and became engaged in business activity. He had studied in Tomar, at the Nun' Alvares School, and in Luanda, at the Salvador Correia de Sa High School, before beginning his military career in 1977.

In his own words, the move to private industry "was just the continuation of a family tradition." His father, also Angolan, from Lobango, besides being a CUF [United Manufacturers Company] employee, was the owner of Auto-Rover; and his grandparents were already associated with his present activity, fishing. Hence, he claims to have "combined the useful with the enjoyable." Even before becoming a fishing entrepreneur, in an industry considered one of the most lucrative in the country's present situation, he already owned a fishing boat. This enabled him to be elected to the post of president of the Luanda Association of Private Fishing Boat Owners in 1990.

Anyone entering his rather modest office (it contains only a desk, two chairs, and a cabinet) immediately encounters two photographs facing him: those depicted are Agostinho Neto and Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the first and current presidents of the People's Republic of Angola. On the right side there is a shotgun, ready for use. A souvenir of military service? "No," he declares peremptorily, "the weapon is for physical protection. There is a very serious wave of holdups here. There are many people who own weapons, leading an easy life." On the desk there is a color photo of his son.

State Assistance

With regard to the posters, he does not answer a question as to whether he belongs to the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]. It was not until later, during a dinner, that he approached the reporter, inquiring: "So did you think that I was an MPLA member?" The comment was made ironically, as if to say that he would never belong to that organization.

Be that as it may, the young entrepreneur maintains that the state should assist the nearly 80,000 men demobilized from the MPLA and UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] armed forces in becoming integrated into civilian life. He advocates giving them land: "They are people who were involved in war for 16 years, and they must be given priority so as to solve their minimal difficulties. Otherwise, some serious problems will be created. Angola is so large that,

even if land were given to these people, there would be opportunities for all others interested."

As for the company that he has owned for four months, namely, SIP [Industrial and Commercial Fishing Company, Ltd.], Abano do Amaral relates that he obtained it through a public bidding competition. A private firm before independence, it was later confiscated and, as part of the policy to privatize small and medium-sized enterprises, it was offered for bidding by the government.

The company is located in the Samba region of Luanda. The entrepreneur competed in the bidding and won. By way of terms, he had to maintain the 30 jobs, and will have to pay 10 million new kwanzas (nearly 25,000 contos). Abano do Amaral has not yet paid that amount because, he claims, "There was a delay by the state. According to regulations, I should have paid immediately after having won the bid."

In any event, he reveals that he had the money at the time because, after having retired from the Navy, he had a weir trawler, "and that brought a large sum of money. Besides, I earn plenty," he declares.

New Projects

The company's units, devoted only to salted and dried fish, are being restructured to receive other types of fish. For this purpose, Abano do Amaral wants to build an ice factory and install several cold storage chambers, each accommodating 20 tons. Another concern is associated with the procurement of bait, which will be caught by company employees.

At present, SIP has 70 workers, a 120-ton trawler, and two weighing 25 tons each. The smaller ones are engaged exclusively in deepwater fishing for "quality fish," such as sea bass, porgy, grouper, and giant bass. Such fish will give the company opportunities for selling it in the free trade shops, dealing only in foreign currencies; and by so doing it will earn large amounts of money. However, the main goal is to export and cooperate with the Portuguese. For the exporting, contacts have already been established with some neighboring countries: The Congo, Zaire, and Namibia, which need dried fish as well as tuna and jewfish.

At present, SIP is catching between 150 and 250 tons of fish per month, which is considered meager. "In a normal situation, we would be catching between 30 and 40 tons per day at this time of year." In the near future, it is intended to catch nearly 400 tons per month.

In the realm of cooperation, Abano do Amaral, who visited Portugal in August, now has contacts with Portuguese companies in the sector, with which he would

like to form a mixed company. He claims: "The Portuguese entrepreneur, particularly in the fishing industry, has a vast area, besides being quite familiar with Angolan waters." Perhaps for this reason, he would like to hire Portuguese mates for his vessels. "They will be paid in kwanzas and in foreign currencies," he adds.

Profitable Waste

Another means whereby SIP earns money is through the sale of fish waste, for which there have been contacts with the Ministry of Agriculture. The entrepreneur asserts: "Nowadays, private industry is viewed favorably in the country, because the hopes for economic recovery are vested in it." Commenting on the planned economy, he stresses that it encouraged the black market, because prices were decided without considering the demand.

For the present, his goal is to acquire six trawlers, and he intends to invest 200 million new kwanzas over the next five years. Although claiming that he could do so without resorting to financing, he notes that he will seek backing from the banks, from which "some assistance for the private sector is already evident." Occupational training is another project brewing, and in this area as well he is counting on the Portuguese.

The SIP's organization consists of a director, a technical director, an administration and human resources department, and an accounting department with an employed accountant. "As early as next year we'll be hiring economists," claims the entrepreneur.

Abano do An. al goes to sea every day on one of the boats, "to accompany his men and keep in closer touch with things." Therefore, he works an average of 12 hours per day. The minimum wage is 12,500 new kwanzas, the average is 17,500, and the highest is 35,000. SIP's 70 workers, who are also entitled to a percentage of the fish caught, are guaranteed two days off per week and 30 days of annual vacation. The company also ensures them medical care.

As an oddity, it might be mentioned that the company also engages in direct barter as a means of obtaining products that it needs: "Otherwise, it wouldn't obtain them." The fact is that, in Angola, having money still isn't everything.

* Luanda Archbishop on Sociopolitical Changes

92AF0049D Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese
27 Sep 91 p 4

[Interview with D. Alexandre Nascimento, Archbishop of Luanda, by Manuel Vilas-Boas; place and date not given]

[Text] With "diplomatic" reserve, but without resentment, the cardinal archbishop of Luanda, Dom Alexandre Nascimento, discusses the new visage of his country: a peace being made every day. He does not deny

the Church's leadership role, but warns against those who seek political power "riding on the backs of priests and bishops."

Aged 66, this "prince of the Church," born in Malange, a former political deportee of Salazar's, student of Marcelo Caetano, and, as a bishop, abducted by Jonas Savimbi's movement, is an avowed friend of Portugal and its present leaders.

As for the regime in power, he claims that neither stomachs nor hearts were satisfied when it tried to eject God from Angola.

[Vilas-Boas] Cardinal, will the present social and political situation being experienced in your country allow for a new leadership position for the Catholic Church in Angola?

[Nascimento] The Church has not been called upon to lead, but to serve.

While it has had to intervene at certain times in history, it did so only until the persons more suited for certain functions, closely related to the country, arrived. I view the Church's future as an even more dedicated service, in the name of the Gospel. The first reality that we must announce is Christ, as the first good for the Angolan person. When they tried to eject God from Angola, neither our stomachs nor our hearts were satisfied! Not even among those who lost their faith! The most important thing that Angola could receive is, first of all, God.

[Vilas-Boas] Are those days of "passion" over?

[Nascimento] I hope so! You know that we are always risking human freedom. However, there is every indication that the new peace in Angola has a certain amount of consistency.

[Vilas-Boas] Would you care to tell me about the difficult times experienced by the Catholic Church during recent years in Angola?

[Nascimento] There were, in fact, times of great suffering. Between 1978 and 1981 we bishops didn't know whether we would be driven from our houses the next day. This happened to many priests and religious, specifically, in the diocese of Lubando, where we were located. The people of God endured it, and I think that it was all for the best.

[Vilas-Boas] Cardinal, were you also a figure in a kidnapping committed by UNITA in October 1982?

[Nascimento] I was, in fact, kidnapped also, and others died; but that's life! We must plant sorrow to reap joy.

[Vilas-Boas] A joy that may have returned to Angola. How do you view this new visage of your country?

[Nascimento] We must adjust to one another, and be realistic. Rome and Pavia were not built in a day. The

peace and happiness of Angola must be compared every day. But we mustn't think that peace is in the hands of the politicians alone.

[Vilas-Boas] This week there is a new scenario in Angola. Jonas Savimbi is preparing to enter Luanda. From your standpoint, do you think that the final steps are being taken to consolidate peace in Angola?

[Nascimento] I hope so!

Disagreements? Only Political

[Vilas-Boas] Has the celebration of 500 years of evangelization in Angola starting this year created new bonds in the relationship between the Portuguese and Angolan Churches?

[Nascimento] Sincerely, this is what makes me most happy as a priest, an Angolan, and a humanist.

There is no reconciliation between the Church of Portugal and that of Angola. We have always had good relations! There may possibly have been disagreements and grudges, but only on the political level. I can't remember an Angolan bishop ever having cursed a bishop of Lisbon! We get along so well! It has always been this way! Note that the one presiding over the celebration of Christianity in Angola to be held during October is the cardinal patriarch of Lisbon, as the pope's envoy. In a certain sense, this event is confirmation of the deep friendship existing between the two Churches.

[Vilas-Boas] But wouldn't you agree that Portugal's current participation in the reconstruction of the Angolan Church and society is insignificant?

[Nascimento] The question should perhaps be viewed from two standpoints. With regard to collaborators in the ecclesiastical area, we must admit that Portugal is also undergoing difficulties, resulting from the drain in vocations. What it has is being given. In the financial, economic, and social areas the collaboration is not that slight. Nevertheless, it should be more solid. There are other countries competing with Portugal that could jeopardize this collaboration. Given our common past, I would like to see in Angola what is best in Portugal. I don't know whether this is asking too much, but the future is important.

'There Is So Much Corruption'

[Vilas-Boas] The Angolan bishops have just concluded their 'ad limina' [periodic official] visit to Rome. Has John Paul II devised special rules for the Angolan Church at present?

[Nascimento] The Holy Father delivered a speech on his program, which coincides essentially with what we had already been doing. However, he called for greater cohesion among the episcopate. This doesn't mean that there are divisions within the Angolan episcopate, as certain forces are trying to hint. Then the Holy Father made an appeal for the reconstruction of spiritual values in Angola. I myself gave the Holy Father an explanation,

revealing my fear of the decline in moral values currently taking place in Luanda. There is so much corruption in Angola, in matters of money and morality! We must reiterate the fact that the politician is truly worthy of respect only when he makes sacrifices for the people, and doesn't sacrifice the people.

Papal Visit

[Vilas-Boas] Did John Paul II definitely disclose to you the date of his already announced visit to Angola?

[Nascimento] In fact, I was authorized to say that, God willing, the Holy Father will be in Angola during the first half of next June. That visit will crown this entire celebration of five centuries. The Holy Father will use the occasion to remind Christians of their responsibilities, and politicians of their obligations, which they cannot put off any longer. The Holy Father also hopes that his visit will be in some way providential.

[Vilas-Boas] What could that mean, Cardinal?

[Nascimento] Providential means a starting point for more and better things.

[Vilas-Boas] But couldn't the announced date of the papal visit be seen in social and political circles as Church interference in the elections, which will be close by then?

[Nascimento] The papal visit will be in June. As you know, the political period for elections is short, a week, if that long! And there are still several months between June and November. As I see it, this also underscores the Holy Father's independence.

[Vilas-Boas] If a Catholic party should appear during the elections, would the Church support it?

[Nascimento] The Church doesn't support parties. It only indicates the criteria that consciences should follow. I, personally, shudder when they show me a Christian democratic party....

[Vilas-Boas] Won't you support individuals either?

[Nascimento] I, personally, won't do so. And I can also tell you that those attaining power need not attain it riding on the back of a priest or bishop!

Family Relations

[Vilas-Boas] The Luanda cardinal's contacts with the president of the Portuguese Republic and the prime minister have been frequent. Are the relations among these statesmen good?

[Nascimento] In the case of the president of the republic, there is a personal friendship. And this is certainly due to the contacts that I had with his son at the university. In Dr. Maria de Jesus we find not only a lovable image of a Portuguese woman, but also an artistic sensitivity and other qualities that ennoble the society in which we live.

As for Professor Cavaco Silva, he is someone with serious responsibilities, working as best he can. I don't want to meddle in Portuguese politics, but the results are obvious.

Be that as it may, what is important to me is that the relations between all Portuguese and all Angolans become increasingly family relations. Five hundred years of coexistence did not happen by chance, perhaps not even through providential means. Just as in the case of Bossuet and St. Augustine, I think that it was God who joined together the paths of history, while respecting our freedom.

Madagascar

Accord Dissolves Parliament, Supreme Council

AB0111082091 Paris AFP in French 0722 GMT
1 Nov 91

[Text] Antananarivo, 1 Nov (AFP)—President Didier Ratsiraka will remain in office in Madagascar while opposition leader Albert Zafy will be the chairman of the Higher Authority for the Transition to the Third Republic. These decisions were announced in an agreement signed here last night following a 48-hour meeting attended by representatives of the legal government, opposition and religious leaders, and the Army.

The agreement also dissolved the Supreme Revolutionary Council and the People's National Assembly. Both institutions will be replaced by the Higher Authority for a transitional period not to exceed 18 months.

Further on Accord

AB0111141091 Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT
1 Nov 91

[By Stephanie Jacobs]

[Excerpts] Antananarivo, Nov 1 (AFP)—Madagascar government and opposition delegates have reached agreement on a transitional administration under which President Didier Ratsiraka would remain in power, officials said Friday.

Albert Zafy, who heads a coalition of 16 opposition parties, was named to head the 31-member transitional authority which is to govern for no more than 18 months, they said. They said the agreement was reached Thursday evening following a two-day meeting of representatives from the government, opposition, church and the army.

(In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry welcomed the agreement reached in Madagascar, a former French colony. "This reconciliation should allow for economic development of the country," the ministry said in a statement. "France is ready to support this end.")

Under the agreement, the Supreme Revolutionary Council and National Assembly are disbanded, replaced by the transitional regime. Ratsiraka, who has been in power for 16 years, has been faced with six months of

mass protests demanding his removal and has been holed up in his presidential palace.

Under the agreement signed Thursday, churchman Richard Andriamanjato and Manandafy Rakotonirina were named co-presidents of a 131-member national committee for economic and social recovery. Guy Razanamasy remains as prime minister in the transitional administration. [passage omitted]

The agreement leaves Madagascar with a "twin presidency" of sorts, observers said. Ratsiraka remains nominal chief of the armed forces, is responsible for naming ambassadors and signs international agreements. But he is stripped of his powers to appoint or dismiss ministers and senior civil servants. The prime minister takes over these functions during the transition period. [passage omitted]

Chissano Congratulates Zambia's Chiluba on Election

MB0211143891 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 2 Nov 91

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano has said that Frederick Chiluba's election as Zambian president represents the Zambian people's vote of confidence in him.

In a congratulatory message to the new Zambian president, the Mozambican head of state noted he believed that bilateral friendship, solidarity, and cooperation will continue to grow for the good of the two states and their people.

President Joaquim Chissano also expressed his desire for expanded bilateral cooperation within the Frontline States, the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, and the OAU for the sake of peace, development, and socioeconomic progress in Africa in general, and southern Africa in particular.

Renamo's Dhlakama Expects Peace 'Before Christmas'

MB0511155391 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 5 Nov 91

[Text] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama said Portugal can assist the Italian mediators in the search of solutions for the conflict in Mozambique, in view of its deep understanding of the Mozambican reality.

The Portuguese LUSA news agency cited Dhlakama as saying he would ask the Portuguese authorities to intervene in the Mozambican peace talks under way in Rome. Dhlakama said the aim is not to replace the Italian mediators but to reinforce their role.

Asked if a cease-fire agreement could be reached by the end of this year, the Renamo leader limited himself to saying the Mozambican people will have peace before Christmas.

The Renamo leader is in Lisbon after holding meetings in Geneva, Switzerland, with Jeffrey Davidow, U.S. assistant undersecretary of state for African affairs.

*** Renamo's Control Over Much of Country Noted**

92AF0051E Lisbon PUBLICO in Portuguese
29 Sep 91 p 20

[Article by Peter Strandberg in Gorongosa]

[Text] They are the most widely feared guerrillas in Africa and have been called "armed bandits" as well as "the khmers noirs." They have been accused of mutilating and assassinating the people of Mozambique without remorse. But in the vast areas they control, they have the support of civilians against a hated political system.

Sheltered in the jungle, the Mozambique National Resistance (Renamo) has been able, through 14 years of civil war, to confront Mig airplanes, the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] Army, and more than 35,000 soldiers from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, and Cuba.

Here in Gorongosa District in Sofala Province, strategically situated in the center of Mozambique near the important "Beira Corridor," Renamo began the war against the Marxist Frelimo regime shortly after independence was proclaimed in 1975.

Initially a group of deserters from the Frelimo army, armed by Ian Smith's Rhodesia and then by South Africa, it is today a guerrilla force of 25,000 soldiers, active in every Mozambican province.

They are men and women who wear different uniforms, homemade clothes, and even old rags, many of them barefoot, all of them armed with rifles captured from the enemy: AK-47, of Soviet manufacture.

Lined up in front of General Matias, the soldiers shout "Viva Renamo and democracy," and "Down with Frelimo and the communists." And it is possible that this barefoot army might even succeed in witnessing Frelimo's defeat.

If that happens, elections will follow, which Renamo is completely sure of winning.

War With No Winners

Meanwhile, what is most likely is that the war will be won by neither side: the guerrillas control the jungle and the plantations, and Frelimo dominates Maputo, the other cities, and access to the international media.

That is how it has been for a long time, and that is how it will remain, even if Renamo says that it already controls more than 80 percent of the interior and almost seven million people, half the country's population.

The future is in the hands of the delegations from the government and the guerrillas, which since last year have been holding intermittent conferences in Rome, under the mediation of the Catholic Church and the Italian government.

From the banks of the Zambeze to the Beira Corridor, the Frelimo Army does not exist, while the guerrillas are everywhere. Traveling from north to south, carrying weapons and food.

Accustomed to walking for months, from Cabo Delgado in the north to Maputo in the south, dragging rocket launchers through the jungle and the mud.

For the some 2,000 Mozambicans living in Sofala Province, the guerrillas during recent years have been an ever more constant presence, almost completely replacing the Army, which is isolated in a few barracks.

The war Frelimo waged against the Portuguese Armed Forces is now used against it by Renamo.

On one of the four Honda motorcycles belonging to Renamo, I traveled more than 250 km per day toward the south.

One-day walks are covered in one hour at dangerous speeds over guerrilla territory.

Occupation of Towns

"We occupy a town and a Frelimo barracks when we need weapons, but we abandon the site as soon as we succeed in obtaining what we want. Then Frelimo advances with new soldiers and new weapons. From there, five or six weeks later we attack again, and so on. On Radio Mozambique the government says that Frelimo reoccupied the area," recounts General Matias, 28, a former agriculture student.

According to him, Renamo has troops at least seven kilometers from Maputo and foreign journalists have already visited the outskirts of Beira with the guerrillas.

"Frelimo has to carry everything by airplane, there are no secure roads," says General Matias.

In the jungle there are landing strips. We stop on one of them and the general points out a gigantic bomb crater. "During the beginning of July, the Italian Ambassador in Maputo informed the government that he would attempt to visit Gorongosa to talk with our president, Afonso Dhlakama. When we were here with the president and awaiting the Ambassador's plane on 7 July, an Antonov dropped a bomb, trying to kill the president."

Canxixe and Chionde are sites typical of the situation in Sofala Province. The town of Xanxixe was previously a prosperous community in the jungle during the days of the Portuguese colonial administration. Today it is an

abandoned monument, where only the remains of houses are recognizable amidst the underbrush.

Some 30 km away is the town of Chionde, a community of straw huts where 30,000 people live.

The people have returned to their former way of life here, and they do not lack for food: papaya, mango, banana, and corn.

Negotiations in Rome

After lunch, the inhabitants sit around the shade of some trees and listen to Renamo Political Commissar Anselmo Vitor speak of the negotiations in Rome. An enthusiastic public sings out criticisms of the Government and parodies the "elevated" productivity achieved by Frelimo in the hated "collective villages."

"Here they have their own land and produce what they want," says Anselmo. According to Renamo, there are abundant volunteers in these villages, especially Frelimo deserters.

"We give a number, and the chief of the village, according to an old tradition, chooses the soldiers we desire. Renamo has conquered the population by returning power to the traditional chiefs, who Frelimo despised," explains the guerrilla commissar.

Dr. Joao Candiado has a calm day in the "Dhlakama Hospital," where there are only five patients in a ward for 40.

The jungle hospital is a group of bungalows where the beds are empty.

There is no electricity or refrigeration, and it also lacks disinfectant and sutures.

"No international humanitarian organization has ever visited any Renamo hospital. During the last eight months the Red Cross twice visited Renamo zones, but left immediately," states Dr. Candiado.

Renamo alleges that this is the result of US economic pressure on the organization. At least that is the reply Dhlakama obtained during a visit to Geneva.

Other organizations, such as France's Doctors Without Borders, have been threatened by the government with expulsion if they asked to work in the areas controlled by the guerrillas.

President Dhlakama

Afonso Dhlakama, a former Frelimo commander who has led Renamo since 1977 when the movement's founder, Andre Matsangaissa, was killed by Frelimo, does not attempt to hide the fact that the Resistance was initially supported by Rhodesia and South Africa.

"We only wanted South Africa to continue to support us after 1984, as it did UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. Then our position in the negotiations would have been better today," says the

Renamo leader, according to whom the movement has been alone for seven years. But he admits that conservative groups from some countries, including Kenya and South Africa, "sympathize" with Renamo.

When the documented and terrible atrocities committed against the population are mentioned, the Renamo leader blames Frelimo. According to him, it is all a propaganda campaign, in which fabricated lies are mixed with true atrocities committed by bandits, deserters, and even by members of the National Security Service (SNASP).

"No guerrilla group has been able to survive 14 years cutting off the noses and ears of people. It is the people who feed us and communicate all the enemy's movements to us," states Dlakama, who criticizes the United States, the United Kingdom, and the Nordic countries for not even trying to obtain reliable information on his movement.

"With respect to Portugal," he adds, "things are beginning to change. President Soares' wife contacted me and intends to meet with me on the situation of children in the zones controlled by Renamo."

* Success of Cotton Marketing Campaign Noted

92AF0051B Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese
20 Sep 91 p 18

[Text] The country has already marketed at least 33,000 tons of export cotton during the current agricultural season, which is nearing an end. This volume represents a 10-percent increase over the 1989/90 harvest, when 30,606 tons of that product were purchased. According to information from a source at the Secretariat of State for Cotton, it is anticipated that by the end of the current season a total of 37,000 tons of cotton will be marketed.

Director of the Secretariat of State for Cotton Narciso Rodrigues, asked to provide an overview of the status of the country's cotton marketing campaign, which is now nearing an end, said that despite adverse conditions such as the war, which affects almost all the rural cotton-producing regions, it is hoped that the results will be encouraging.

"This year, despite the climatic conditions that affected the initiation of the campaign, the results so far are better than last year. At this time, 33,000 tons, out of a targeted 37,000, are already at the unloading facilities around the country," said Narciso Rodrigues.

In response to a question on the reasons for the observed increase, and whether it was because of greater participation on the part of the business sector in the production process, our source said there had not been a great deal of attention paid to that productive sector.

He argued that "what occurred was a restructuring of the productive sector, as the State gave way to new corporations with mixed capital.

"The State continues to be present in this process, with the inclusion of the mixed-capital corporations giving rise to a new dynamic in the productive process and the administration of human and material resources, and now offering better organization and higher production volumes," he added.

Our source also emphasized that the family sector, the primary participant in the cotton-marketing process, which is currently under the administration of the mixed sector, is expected to achieve quite significant levels of production.

According to Narciso Rodrigues, the mixed business sector anticipates producing 17,000 tons, while the family sector projects 16,000.

Our source pointed out that the administrative authorities have carried out basic works throughout the campaign, particularly in Nampula and Cabo Delgado Provinces, regions where the production rates have grown substantially.

"It is to be noted that particular attention was devoted to yields, despite the fact that production areas did not grow significantly. I can state that in Nampula there were areas in the family sector that reached yields comparable to the mechanized sector," our source pointed out.

He noted that these activities have been carried out intensively since the end of the last campaign. According to him, seeds were distributed in time and the issue of cotton purchasing in the finished campaign constituted another incentive to achieve good results.

Narciso Rodrigues said that at this time the biggest problem is guaranteeing the farmers, particularly those in the family sector, some incentives to achieve higher rates of production.

Zambia

Elections Office Announces Presidential Vote Tally

MB0611115591 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1128 GMT 6 Nov 91

[Text] Lusaka Nov 6 SAPA—Zambia's elections office in Lusaka on Wednesday announced that President Frederick Chiluba polled a total of 972753 votes compared with 310761 votes for former President Kenneth Kaunda in Zambia's first plural elections in 18 years.

The assistant director of elections, Mr Rabson Mwansa, explained that the final results showed Mr Chiluba scooped 75.79 per cent of the total votes cast while Dr Kaunda received just 24.21 per cent.

A total of 41524 presidential votes were rejected but Mr Mwansa said "on average, everything went well".

According to the computed election results, 1325038 people voted out of a total of 2.9 million registered voters.

This graphically shows that more than half the electorate, 1574962 people, did not vote. Election and political pundits in Lusaka attributed this apathy to threats by politicians of civil war and related violence.

President Chiluba will announce his cabinet on Thursday.

Chiluba Announces Cabinet, Notes Challenges Ahead

MB0711131491 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1100 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] Lusaka, Nov 7, SAPA—Newly elected Zambian President Frederick Chiluba on Thursday announced his long-awaited 18-member cabinet, warning that they had to work for the people.

The Cabinet comprises some old and young politicians but with vast experience and intellectual acumen.

President Chiluba did not name ministers for commerce and trade, and tourism but promised to announce the names before the weekend.

He urged the ministers to scale down on the privileges like cars and other fringe benefits enjoyed in the previous United National Independence Party government headed by Dr. Kenneth Kaunda.

—Vice-President and leader of the House (National Assembly) Mr. Levy Mwanawasa.

—Defence Minister Mr. Ben Mwila, and his deputy Maj. Selestino Chibamba.

—Foreign Affairs Mr. Vernon Mwaanga, Deputy Dr. Remmy Mushota, a lawyer.

—Finance Mr. Emmanuel Kasonde.

—Home Affairs Newstead Zimba

—Local Government Mr Michael Sata, Mr Chiluba's long-time trade unionist ally, Deputy Mr Valentine Kayope.

—Health Dr Boniface Kawimbe, Deputy Dr Mike Katele.

—Education Mr Arthur Wina, the founding father of the Movement for Multiparty Democracy [MMD], and Deputy Miss Kabinda Kayongo, an university lecturer.

—Community Development and Social Welfare Mr Gabriel Maka.

—Labour and Social Security Dr Ludwig Sondashi.

—Communications and Transport Mr Andrew Kashita.

- Agriculture and Fisheries Dr Guy Scott.
- Lands and Natural Resources Mr Dawson Lupunga, Deputy Mr Edward Shimwendwe.
- Legal Affairs Dr Rodger Chongwe.
- Information and Continuing Education the Rev Sten Kristofor.
- Mines and Mines Development Mr Humphrey Mulemba, Deputy Dr Mathias Musonda Mpande, former dean of the School of Mines at Zambia University.
- Technical Education and Training Mr Akashambatwa Mbikusita-Lewanika.
- Youth, Sport and Child Development Mr Baldwin Nkumbula, the son of veteran Zambian politician Harry Mwaanga Nkumbula.
- Environment Mr Kelly Walubita.

MMD General Secretary Mr Godfrey Miyanda was nominated minister without portfolio.

President Chiluba also announced the names of provincial ministers:

- Western Province Mr Mufaya Mumbuna
- Southern Province Mr Peter Muunga
- North-Western Province Paul Kapina
- Northern Province Mr Daniel Kapapa
- Lusaka Province Mr Elias Chipimo
- Eastern Province Mr Osea Soko
- Luapula Province Mr Edward Muonga
- Central Province to be announced.
- Copperbelt Province to be announced on Saturday.

Mr Chiluba cautioned his ministers against putting personal interests above national issues. "We face a tremendous challenge ahead to rebuild a ravaged economy," he warned.

"The people are looking to us to do the good job by delivering the goods. This government will keep its word and in the same vain, the people must reciprocate by working hard in every facet."

He appealed to all political parties to join hands together to work for the people and the country—"to ensure that there are no enemies because we are all Zambians".

New ministers should forget about luxuries and work for the reconstruction of the destroyed economy and social services, he added.

Chiluba: Trade With South Africa To Resume

*MB0711123291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1114 GMT 7 Nov 91*

[Text] Lusaka Nov 7 SAPA—Zambia will now trade officially with South Africa [RSA], Zambian President Frederick Chiluba announced in Lusaka on Thursday.

The ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy government would open trade with South Africa because the country was already conducting a lot of business with Pretoria.

Mr Chiluba, who was addressing his first press conference as president of Zambia, said: "We don't want to operate like the United National Independence Party government which conducted business with Pretoria at night but said to the contrary in the day".

An official announcement would be made as soon as possible by the relevant ministries to formalise trade with Pretoria, he added.

President Chiluba cited the flood of South African goods in Zambian shops as "something tangible you cannot hide", adding "let us trade with them openly".

He further said South Africans visiting Zambia would not require visa applications, but would simply get them at the port of entry and would only be requested to state how long they would stay in the country.

This aspect would encourage tourism from South Africa, he said.

Mr Chiluba also said the exchange of trade missions between Zambia and South Africa would be executed as soon as possible, probably in months if not weeks.

On Israel, Mr Chiluba said his administration would re-establish relations with the Jewish state because everyone in the world had recognised that "it is a state, even the Arabs have conceded this fact".

President Chiluba said reasons advanced to ostracise Israel were no longer valid.

On illegal immigrants or aliens, particularly from west Africa, President Chiluba took a hard line, saying they would have to explain their presence in Zambia or they should "just leave".

Mr Chiluba promised to get rid of all illegal aliens in the country, who he accused of contributing to the high rate of crime and economic sabotage.

Furthermore, his administration would honour all the international agreements concluded by former President Kaunda's government. "All the international obligations will be honoured," Mr Chiluba said.

'Salvage Operation' of Parastatals Launched

*MB0611091091 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0808 GMT 6 Nov 91*

[Text] Lusaka Nov 6 SAPA—A major salvage operation of Zambian government-owned firms has been launched by the new Zambian president, Mr Frederick Chiluba.

The new Zambian administration has also fired many of the parastatals' top executives, sent others on forced leave, while some were being questioned by police on charges of high-level corruption.

Some of the parastatals on the Chiluba government's "rescue list" include the state holding company Zambia Industrial and Mining Corporation (Zimco), the Zambia National Provident Fund (ZNPf), Zambia Airways and the Industrial Development Corporation (Indeco).

A government spokesman said many of the parastatal firms had been draining money which had been earmarked for development.

"Development suffered a great deal due to the gross mismanagement of these institutions," the unnamed government official said.

The government has dismissed Mr Francis Kaunda, the chairman and chief executive of Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM); Mr Brian Moyo, managing director of Mulungushi Investments, and Mr Friday Ndhlovu, who used to head Zambia's national commercial bank.

Also axed was Mr Malcom Freed, managing director of Circuit Safaris, a ZCCM subsidiary.

Among the parastatal organisations to be dismantled would be Zimco, the head office of ZCCM and Indeco, the government spokesman said.

However, rescue attempts would be made for other state-owned firms "by allowing them to operate autonomously and reinvest their profits into production rather than into unproductive activities such as the payment of salaries to the not so deserving people," according to the government spokesman.

On Monday, police raided the ZCCM head office in Lusaka and conducted a thorough search. Police claimed that they had found incriminating documents.

Zambian police public relations officer, Ms Rahab Chiwaala, confirmed that several former executives of parastatal organisations were being questioned about "very gross abuse of office" during the administration of the former president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda.

She said there was "very concrete proof, much of it very serious, which could lead to prosecution of those involved".

The former chief of ZCCM, Mr Francis Kaunda, has been replaced by Mr Edward Shamatete, and Mr Moyo, the dismissed MD [managing director] of Mulungushi Investments, was succeeded by Dr Edwin Koloko.

UNIP Official on Party's Defeat in Elections

*MB0511185891 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 5 Nov 91*

[Telephone interview with Enock Kavindele, United National Independence Party, UNIP, official in Lusaka, by BBC correspondent John Mokhele, on the "Focus on Africa" program; date not given]

[Text] While Zambians wait to hear the details of their new government, some hard questions must be being asked in the losing UNIP [United National Independence Party] camp after last week's elections which brought President Chiluba and his MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] Party to power with a landslide victory.

UNIP, the former ruling party, won only one out of every five seats, leaving them with only 25 seats in a 150-seat parliament. Indeed, some Zambians might be wondering if the election defeat was so decisive as to destroy UNIP as an effective political force. Enock Kavindele is a senior member of UNIP and earlier this year he challenged former President Kaunda for the leadership. On the line to Lusaka, John Mokhele put it to him that UNIP had now been wiped off the political map in Zambia.

[Begin recording] [Kavindele] John, I do not think so. Certainly, we are disappointed with the results of the elections but these things do happen in a multiparty situation. We believe that we could bounce back sooner or later.

[Mokhele] How soon do you expect that, in five years?

[Kavindele] Well, we believe that the MMD promised heavens to a lot of Zambians and the Zambian people will be wanting them to deliver goods. We do not just see how they will be able to deliver the heaven that they promised to the Zambians.

[Mokhele] But were you generally happy with the way these elections were conducted?

[Kavindele] John, not quite, really, because, I think, the margins were far too wide and we will soon be holding a meeting to ... [changes thought] We will be holding a postmortem as to what went wrong.

[Mokhele] But the fact that the margin was too wide, does that nullify the validity of these election results?

[Kavindele] Well, not quite, really, but again, John, we are unable at this stage to understand how we, as a party that has been around 27 years, could lose with such wide margins. We have our own suspicions about one or two things but, you know, we would like to hold a proper postmortem.

[Mokhele] Now, do you feel that former President Kenneth Kaunda was a liability? Did he cause your defeat?

[Kavindele] Well, John, it is difficult to be specific but I did state as early as January this year that the Zambian people were protesting at the continued presence of Dr. Kaunda as president of UNIP.

[Mokhele] Now, before these elections, UNIP was saying that it would have a landslide majority victory. You obviously must have misread the mood of the people of Zambia?

[Kavindele] Well, not quite, really. Take the Eastern Province for instance. There, we got all the seats that we contested for.

[Mokhele] You were defeated quite massively. You only managed to win one out of five seats. Now, what sort of opposition are you going to be?

[Kavindele] Well, we feel we shall be a vocal minority in Parliament and outside Parliament, the party is still quite intact and strong. So, we will be able to supplement the efforts of our members of Parliament.

[Mokhele] Do you know on what sort of issues you are going to (?attack) the current government?

[Kavindele] Well, the issues that have brought us down are issues of the economy, and we do know that sooner or later those that have promised to assist Zambia in either writing off Zambia's debt or anything else, will be demanding that certain economic measures are taken up. Those economic measures, some of them will be so unpleasant to the common people of Zambia and they will start protesting. At that time, we believe that they will now miss UNIP and they would want UNIP to be in power.

[Mokhele] Now, the people, you say, will miss UNIP. Are you going to miss being in power?

[Kavindele] Well, yes we will miss being representatives of the Zambian people in power. But, that is not the real issue. The issue is that the Zambian people will look

forward to a better economic time which, I am afraid, the others have promised. They campaigned, they did say that UNIP was ineffectual, UNIP could not deliver these goods and people believed it. So now, it is up to the MMD to live up to their word and we do not see how they will be able to deliver the goods. [end recording]

Zimbabwe

Postal, Communications Workers Call Off Boycott

*MB0611100291 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2259 GMT 5 Nov 91*

[Text] Bulawayo, Nov 5 SAPA—The Zimbabwe Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Union late on Tuesday called off a work boycott which partially halted postal and telecommunication services in the country's major towns, the ZIANA news agency reports.

Workers in the Department of Posts and Telecommunications [PTC] were advised to resume work, as soon as possible, by their union leaders.

Senior national vice-president of the union, Wilfred Chanaiwa said in Bulawayo on Tuesday afternoon that the strike had been called off pending the outcome of a tripartite meeting in Harare on Wednesday involving union representatives, PTC management and the government.

Mr Chanaiwa said all the workers who were scheduled to be on duty on Tuesday evening should go to work as usual and all PTC workers throughout Matabeleland should report to work on Wednesday morning.

He, however, warned that tools would be downed again on Wednesday afternoon if negotiators at the meeting failed to reach a compromise.

"Otherwise as of now we are calling off the strike and people should return to work and wait for the outcome of tomorrow's meeting," he said.

Liberia

Taylor on 'Violation' of Yamoussoukro IV Accord

AB0311081391 Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion Nationale du Burkina Radio in French 0700 GMT 3 Nov 91

[Text] The first false note in the accord on Liberia concluded early this week in Yamoussoukro has been reported. The National Patriotic Front of Liberia speaks of a violation of that accord. According to Charles Taylor, forces coming from Sierra Leone and Guinea are currently occupying three villages near the border with Sierra Leone. Here is Charles Taylor, interviewed on the telephone by journalist Leclerc:

[Begin Taylor recording in English with simultaneous translation into French] That is a very serious violation of the accord we concluded, which stipulates that we lay down arms. As I speak to you, violent fighting is going on in that region. We have just returned from Yamoussoukro, and we were quite willing after we signed an accord.

According to that accord, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group] is supposed to put an end to the harassment against my government. Yet here we are now involved in one of the largest battles since last [date indistinct] we left Yamoussoukro. We expected that all this fighting would be over and that goodwill would be restored. The question is, what does the world expect of me and of my government? [end recording]

Taylor: NPFL Facing New Attacks From ULIMO

AB0311162591 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 3 Nov 91

[Text] Monrovia, Nov 3 (AFP) - Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) came under renewed attack from the United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO) in Grand Cape Mount county, Radio Gbarnga reported Sunday [3 November].

The radio, monitored here, did not say when the fresh attack began but quoted Taylor as saying that a battle was underway in the border town of Bo, near the strategic Mano River Union bridge and in several villages.

Taylor accused Sierra Leone's President Joseph Momoh of allowing ULIMO, an exiled Liberian rebel group based in that country, to launch repeated attacks on NPFL positions in Cape Mount.

He said the latest ULIMO hostility was a violation of the peace agreement for Liberia concluded in Yamoussoukro last week and called on Momoh not to allow armed bandits to use Sierra Leone territory as "a springboard to attack NPFL forces and kill innocent Liberians in their pursuit to destabilize the country".

Taylor said he would be sending a high-powered delegation to meet with several leaders of the Economic

Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) to inform them about the latest developments.

Taylor said the fighting in Cape Mount had put the lives of thousands of people in danger, and that "no one should expect the NPFL to sit by without doing anything to protect lives and property of the citizens".

He said his organization was committed to lasting peace in Liberia and the Yamoussoukro agreement was a clear indication that Liberians were tired of war and on their way to peace.

But he warned that because of Sierra Leone's alleged support for ULIMO, "We will not be responsible for Sierra Leone soldiers sent to NPFL controlled territory during the encampment and disarmament period".

Taylor Urges Continued U.S. Role in Country

AB0411094391 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English 1900 GMT 3 Nov 91

[Text] The United States Government has been urged to continue its official role in the Liberian conflict [words indistinct]. President Taylor said while it is true certain quarters of the big American bureaucracy is bent on overt and covert activities against the NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] Government, the NPRA will deal the U.S. diplomatically. [sentence as heard]

Mr. Taylor said the U.S. is now the only superpower and has (?more money), but the NPRA Government will continue to work with them and will never hesitate to tell them frankly about things that are not in the people's interest. He commended the U.S. Government for the food and drug supplies to the war-ravaged people of Liberia and hoped that the U.S. will also spend some of its money on reconstruction work in the country.

Meanwhile, the people of Liberia have been told to (?be doing self-defense training) and make it their duty in order to stave off the wave of new attacks in the country.

ULIMO Rejects Accord, to 'Continue To Fight'

AB0411121391 Paris AFP in English 1135 GMT 4 Nov 91

[Text] Freetown, Nov 4 (AFP)—United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia (ULIMO) leader Raleigh Seekie said here Monday [4 November] that his organization had rejected the latest Liberian peace accord reached in the Ivory Coast political capital Yamoussoukro and "will continue to fight."

Seekie told AFP that ULIMO forces were firmly in control of Liberia's western Grand Cape Mount County after launching attacks in September and October.

He said his forces—largely comprising former government troops in exile—were moving towards Bomi Hills, some 50 kilometers (30 miles) from the capital Monrovia, while another group was in northwestern Lofa County.

Seekie said the war had reached a turning point and predicted that Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) "will be flushed out" by the end of January next year.

He said 100 NPFL rebels had been captured in recent fighting while 50 surrendered. Ten NPFL trucks loaded with arms and ammunition were also seized by ULIMO forces, but Seekie did not say when or where the battle took place.

Seekie, a former junior minister in the government of the late president Samuel Doe, said that decisions reached at last week's conference were "not in the interest of the Liberian people but that of Charles Taylor." The NPFL controls most of the country outside the capital Monrovia.

He said a recent statement by former U.S. president Jimmy Carter that the international community should put pressure on Sierra Leone and Guinea to force ULIMO to end cross-border raids as "provocative and likely to jeopardize the peace process."

He said that the NPFL rebels must be disarmed, all "mercenaries" returned to their countries of origin and all major roads in Liberia reopened before ULIMO would end "its just war".

On Friday [1 November], ULIMO issued a press release stating that the NPFL were attacking returning refugees and civilians in Grand Cape Mount County despite suspension of further actions by ULIMO in western Liberia.

The release claimed that the NPFL attacks began on September 30.

Meanwhile, NPFL radio reported Sunday [3 November] that their forces had come under renewed attack by ULIMO forces at the border with Sierra Leone.

Sawyer Urges End to ULIMO Attacks

AB0511112091 Paris AFP in English 1928 GMT
4 Nov 91

[Text] Monrovia, Nov 4 (AFP)—Liberia's interim president Amos Sawyer on Monday called on a refugee militia of former government solidiers to stop attacking Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front (NPFL) at the country's western border.

Sawyer told a news conference here that the fighting which erupted at the weekend was of "great concern" to his Monrovia-based government.

The interim leader dismissed as "preposterous, false and misleading" charges that he was supporting the group, known as the United Liberation Movement for Democracy (ULIMO), which is reportedly based in neighboring Sierra Leone.

Fighting between the NPFL and ULIMO first broke out in September, and has flared up several times around the strategic Mano River bridge linking Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Both sides have claimed control of the area, but there has been no official confirmation of the clashes.

At his news conference, Sawyer praised Taylor for his "statesmanship" for agreeing to encamp and disarm his NPFL as part of a peace accord reached last week in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast.

"We want to encourage him and his people to continue this route to a lasting peace," Sawyer said.

He said he realized that Taylor, whose NPFL launched a bloody rebellion in December 1989 against the late president Samuel Doe, had a "problem". It was not easy for someone to put together "a military machinery and dismantle it", he said.

Meanwhile, representatives of Sawyer's government and the NPFL are to meet Tuesday in Taylor's headquarters at Gbarnga in central Liberia to choose leaders for a joint ad hoc supreme court and interim elections commission.

The court will hear cases arising from election disputes while the elections commission will make laws and guidelines governing the election process.

Interim justice minister Philip Banks, who heads Sawyer's delegation, left here Monday for Gbarnga. The meeting had twice been postponed at Taylor's request. The two sides formed the judicial body and the elections commission last month in Gbarnga.

Minister Reports 'Heavy Fighting'; Boat Seized

AB0411222091 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 4 Nov 91

[Text] The ministry of national defense says heavy fighting is continuing around the towns of Bo and (Bamahun) in Grand Cape Mount County between forces of the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and [words indistinct] Sierra Leone and Guinea forces. According to defense ministry [words indistinct] latest field reports say several enemy forces have been killed (?with losses) on the NPFL side.

Meanwhile, the defense ministry says the navy battalion of the NPFL intercepted a vessel off the coast of Cape Mount, which has been escorted by two unidentified gunboats. The release said there were (?lots of) exchanges of gunfire. The gunboats fled and the vessel was captured by the navy battalion. The defense ministry said an investigation is being conducted to find out why should gunboats in Liberian territorial waters open fire on NPFL forces. The release said the NPFL has requested

an official inquiry from the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] field commander, Major General Ishayat Bakut. Based NPFL unit commandos countered the attack and seized the vessel being escorted. The crew of the boat and others on board are now being interrogated.

The defense ministry said the navy has been put on full alert and has also ordered all forces of the NPFL to report to their various headquarters in preparation to defend the country against these aggression on the Liberian people [words indistinct] Samuel Doe killers, headed by (Charles Zulu) and backed by Amos Sawyer, Boimah Fahnbulleh, Alhaji Koromah, and other former officials of the Doe government, as well as the armed unit of Sierra Leone and Guinea.

NPRA Government To Support Carter Proposals

*AB0411222591 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 4 Nov 91*

[Text] The NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] Government says it will fully support former U.S. President Jimmy Carter's document at the pending ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] technical committee meeting. President Taylor said although Mr. Carter's involvement in the peace process is neutral, the government will ensure that it does not be put into full action [sentence as heard].

According to the document, Mr. Carter called for the reduction of ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] troops to 5,000 and all its tanks in the country to be removed. It was also made clear in the document that ECOMOG should not protect Dr. Amos Sawyer but President Taylor. President Taylor said the Carter's proposal is the result of a careful assessment of the Liberian situation.

Taylor to Address Reconstruction Assembly 5 Nov

*AB0411214091 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 4 Nov 91*

[Excerpt] The chairman of the National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly, President Charles Gankay Taylor, will tomorrow Tuesday [morning] address a joint session of the cabinet and assembly members on issues of local and international concern at the Assembly Hall on Capitol Hill Teachers College in Suakoko, Bong County. [passage omitted]

Sawyer on INPFL Exclusion From Yamoussoukro

*AB0711113591 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 7 Nov 91*

[Text] The Interim Government of National Unity says the Yamoussoukro talks have been mainly intended to get the leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] to accept the peace process which has already been accepted by the Independent National Patriotic Front [INPFL] and the Armed Forces of Liberia [AFL]. Interim President Amos Sawyer was clarifying concerns that the INPFL had been left out of the Yamoussoukro talks.

The leader of the front, Mr. Prince Johnson, was quoted as saying recently that there will be no election in the country if the INPFL was not represented at the discussions. But, according to the interim president, the major problem has been to get the NPFL to agree to what the others have already agreed upon, adding that the INPFL and the AFL have already accepted ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] in the peace process which calls for disarming and encamping of all combatants.

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